

OUR 119TH YEAR

Andover Townsman

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NOVEMBER 16, 2006

75 CENTS

Legislators split on marriage recess vote

By April Guilmet

Andover's two state representatives were among the 109 legislators who voted to recess the state Constitutional Convention, essentially ensuring a ballot vote on gay marriage won't appear on the 2008 ballot.

Rep. Barry Finegold, D-Andover, and Rep. Barbara L'Italien, D-Andover, voted to recess until Jan. 2, the final day of the current legislative session.

Sen. Susan Tucker, D-Andover, who had voted for an earlier recess this July that delayed the issue until after this month's state election, voted on Nov. 9 against having another recess. A longtime supporter of gay marriage, Tucker said she considers the issue to be one of constitutional rights, and therefore balked at having people vote on it.

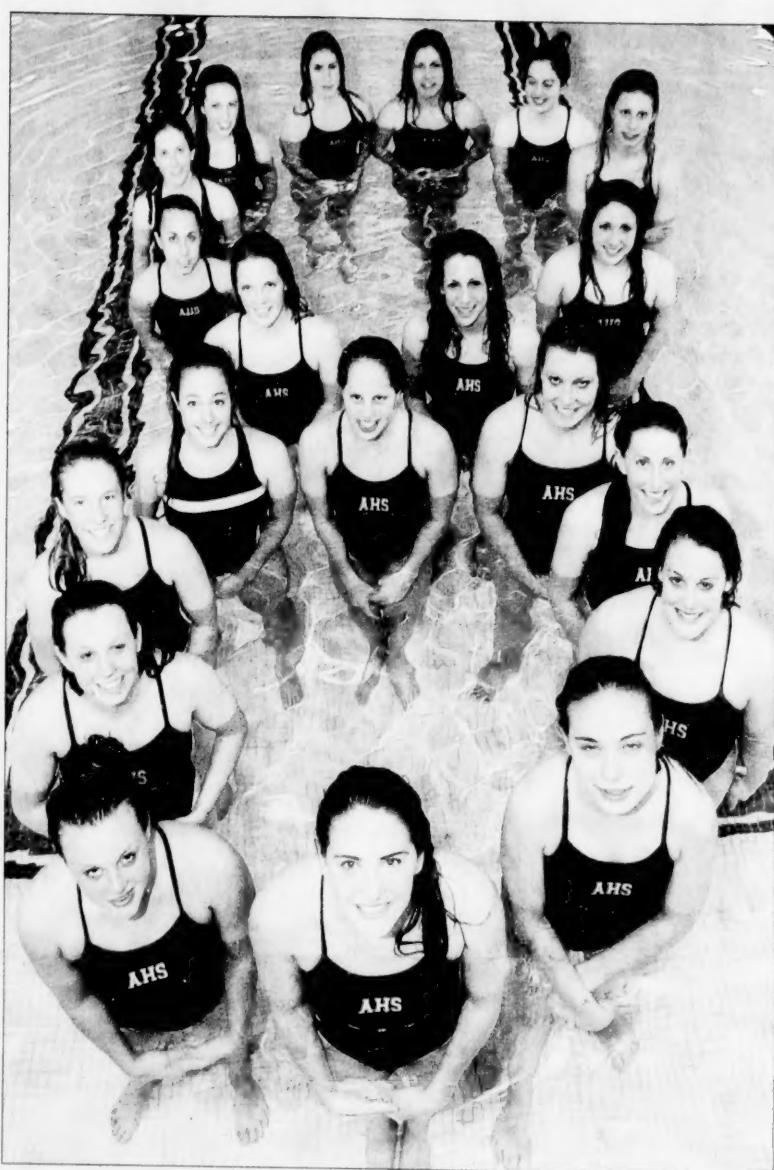
"I'm strongly opposed to a constitutional ban (on gay marriage) and have been since the debate began," Tucker said.

But she believes legislators should take an up or down vote, "rather than parliamentary procedures" to defeat the measure, she said.

In the end, a 109-87 vote in favor of recessing crippled the chances gay marriage opponents will see a 2008 vote to amend the state's constitution and define marriage as between one man and one woman. Opponents of same-sex marriage had collected 170,000 signatures calling for a ballot vote on the issue. Twenty-five percent of the legislature must approve the measure during two consecutive

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GOING FOR NUMBER



The Andover girls swim and dive team has won eight straight conference titles and will go for its eighth straight state championship on Sunday. Above, members formed an "8" in the pool at Greater Lawrence Technical School during a break in practice this week.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

How do they do it?

Andover swimmers look to be 'gr-eight-est' in state

By Rick Harrison

There are so many ingredients needed to create a high school state championship team.

Talent. Coaching. Pride. Desire. Camaraderie. Intensity. Hunger. Fearlessness. Commitment. Unselfishness.

After you've won a state title or two, what additional ingredients do you need to keep repeating that same standard of excellence each year? How do you win, year after year, until you are on the verge of eight straight?

Perhaps the best current study in the entire commonwealth is the Andover High

girls swim and dive team — whose string of successes has reached dynastic proportions.

Sunday morning at 6:15 a.m., the 46 members of the swim/dive squad and their coaches will board a bus bound for MIT in Cambridge where slightly fewer than half of them will compete in the 2006 State Division 1 Girls Swimming & Diving Championship Meet. In tow will be their entourage — a convoy of family, friends and school administrators who will cheer them on hopefully to even greater heights.

The Andover girls will be shooting for their eighth straight state title. No one has

beaten them this millennium (since 1999).

There is pressure every time they don the blue and gold swimsuit and represent AHS. And with each passing year — and each passing meet — it grows. Teenagers have enough to cope with in their lives, but this is a good kind of pressure. The type of scrutiny that builds character and establishes values that stay with kids forever.

When you talk to members of Andover's amazing aquatic sorority — some of whom will be chasing a state title for the fourth time on Sunday — the answers to the secrets of suc-

Continued on page 17

Gator found by walker

By Brian Messenger

The staff at the Andover Animal Hospital was caught by surprise on Nov. 11 when Andover police brought in an alligator they had rescued earlier that day. But nowhere near as surprised as the couple who originally spotted the reptile while walking near the Merrimack River.

"I almost stepped on it," said Laurie Farrell, who was with her husband on Saturday morning walking their dog on an Andover Village Improvement Society trail. "I ran faster than I've ever run."

What Farrell initially thought to be a rubber lizard turned out to be what police

described as an 18-inch alligator sunning itself just off the trail.

"If you count the tail, the total was probably 26, 30 inches," said Hamilton Lincoln, the veterinarian who later treated the animal at the Andover Animal Hospital. "He was a pretty young alligator, still."

The gator was found in the wooded area behind the Wyndham Hotel, off Old River Road and near both the Merrimack River and Interstate 93.

After Farrell called the police from the trail on her cell phone, two officers responded to the scene around 10 a.m.

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"I ran faster than I've ever run."

LAURIE FARRELL, WHO FOUND THE ALLIGATOR OFF AN A.V.I.S. TRAIL

INTERSTATE 93

State will build sound barriers

By Neil Fater

That sound you heard Tuesday near Interstate-93 in Andover wasn't just traffic, it was a deep sigh of relief from long-suffering neighbors.

The Massachusetts Highway Department has committed to designing a multi-million dollar project to install sound barriers along about 4,500 feet of Interstate 93 in Andover, between the Dascomb Road exit and Hansom Road.

"I was shocked," said Don Wade, a neighbor who collected 500 signatures on a petition this summer. "We're going to go to the top of the list."

"We've been fighting this fight for more than 10 years," said Stan Riemer, of Hansom Road. "We've been able to utilize the community strength to get this accomplished. [But] I did not expect to hear [Tuesday] that we won, so to speak."

The noise from the highway is above the standards used by the federal government to determine when barriers should be built. Mass Highway is hoping the state and federal government will share the cost of the project.

"We haven't identified a

funding source yet, but we wanted to get the design ball rolling," said Eric Abel, assistant press secretary for Mass Highway.

Mass Highway estimates that the project will cost \$4 million. Abel said the state will design the project during 2007.

"This is becoming a top priority for Mass Highway and they are going to move forward," said state Rep. Barry Finegold. "Some of the hard work and resiliency of the neighborhood paid off."

"There were so many children and so many people with hearing aids who couldn't wear them in the house — that was what kept me going," said Wade. "We got [State Sen.] Sue Tucker involved. We got Barry Finegold involved. We got [US Congressman] Marty Meehan involved. Did all this make them listen? I have to say, 'Yes.' We sent out letters and letters and letters. It was a [combination] of everything, putting pressure on them."

The town's Conservation Commission will have to approve the work, and there will be an opportunity for community input, said Finegold.

YOUR TAXES

Selectmen ready to set rates for 2007

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Paul Martineau (left) receives a flu shot from registered nurse Roland Gauthier in the Richard J. Collins Field House at Andover High School on Tuesday.

TOWN CLINICS

Fear on flu-shot shortage unfounded

By April Guilmet

Although many health experts had predicted a potential shortage of flu vaccinations this season, Andover health officials say residents probably don't need to worry.

"At first we were concerned about not getting our vaccine delivery in time, but the state sent it to us last week," said Tom Carbone, director of the Andover Health Department.

The first of three scheduled flu clinics in town this year was held Nov. 14 in the Andover High School field house. Other clinics are planned for Nov. 27 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Andover Senior Center; and on Nov. 30 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in

the Andover Town Offices, second floor conference room.

Carbone emphasized that the department does not vaccinate children, but the clinics will be open to any Andover residents age 18 or older. While the clinics are free, regardless of health coverage, residents 65 or older are requested to provide their health insurance/Medicaid number for reimbursement purposes.

Carbone said shots will be on a first-come, first-serve basis, with first priority given to elderly residents.

"But we really don't anticipate any problems," he said.

For more information about flu clinics, or to preregister call 978-623-8295.

WHO SHOULD BE VACCINATED?

- People 65 or older.
- Residents of long term care facilities.
- Those with long-term health problems, muscle or nerve disorders.
- Those with weakened immune systems.
- People 6 months to 18 years of age on long-term aspirin treatment.
- Pregnant women.
- Children 6 to 59 months.
- Caretakers and physicians.

SOURCE: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION WEB SITE

FEASTER FIVE

Town's Thanksgiving race

On Thanksgiving morning, thousands of runners and walkers will take to Andover's streets for the 19th annual Feaster Five Road Race. You can be one of them, and use the race to offset your turkey dinner, raise money for charity and earn a free apple pie (complimentary to each finisher).

Participants can choose a 3.1- or 5-mile course. The race starts at the corner of Routes 133 and 28 and ends in Brickstone Square. The

Kids K starts at 8 a.m., and the entry fee is \$5. Adults race at 8:30 a.m. The adult entry fee is \$20 if paid before tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 17, and \$25 on race day.

Proceeds from the race, sponsored by the Merrimack Valley Striders, will go to the Merrimack Valley Hospice, which hopes to build a hospice house in the area.

Register online at www.feasterfive.com and click on "registration" for instructions.

What will you pay in taxes?

Selectmen prepared to set residential, business tax rates

By Brian Messenger

Selectmen will likely decide at their next meeting how much residents and business owners will pay in taxes next year.

Selectmen Chairman Alex Vispoli said he expects the board to determine the tax rates for residential and commercial property at its Nov. 20 meeting. The decision will affect how the burden of this year's property taxes will be divided between homeowners and businesses.

Last year, residents paid \$11.40 and commercial-property owners paid \$17.95 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. Because the average residential property value rose from \$561,360 to \$591,800 over the past year maintaining an equivalent ratio would still raise a homeowner's tax bill by about 4.6 percent, said officials.

From fiscal year 2006 to FY07, the value of single family homes in Andover averaged a 5.7 percent increase, while condominiums rose 3.3 percent and two- and three-family homes' values rose an average of 2.1 percent, according to information provided by the town's Chief Assessor Bruce Symmes.

While Vispoli did not reveal what he and other selectmen might vote to do, he acknowledged that, "Under the last two years we have opted to keep the rates consistent."

He said the selectmen have embraced an

approach that will "keep the rates predictable and not mak[e] any extreme jumps one way or the other."

Once the selectmen make a decision, the town assessor's office will send all the necessary information to the state. Once the state approves Andover's tax rates, Symmes said, then property tax bills will be printed and mailed to residents and business owners by Jan. 1.

Members of the business community voiced their concerns over current tax rates at the Nov. 6 selectmen meeting.

Joe Bevilacqua, president of the Merrimack Valley Chamber of Commerce, urged selectmen to lower or maintain the tax rate for commercial and industrial property, stating that a more tolerable rate keeps businesses in town, helps them to expand, and also attracts new businesses.

According to Symmes, there has been strong residential growth in Andover over the past two decades. "We've had much more residential growth than we have had [commercial and] industrial," Symmes said.

Symmes said that in 1986, 67.59 percent of town property was residential, compared to 32.41 percent of commercial and industrial property. "Today, 81 percent of the town is residential, and almost 19 [percent] is commercial/industrial," he said.

Reps: Don't amend Mass. constitution

■ SAME-SEX MARRIAGE

Continued from page 1

sessions for the question to be put on a ballot.

L'Italien said she voted for the recess because she supports gay marriage.

"I believe the amendment was going to write discrimination into the (state) Constitution, and that was fundamental-

ly wrong," L'Italien told The Eagle-Tribune Publishing Co. last week. E-mails and calls to L'Italien this week were unreturned at press time.

Also voting for the recess was Finegold, who said he simply did what he believed was right.

"I believe that we shouldn't amend the constitution. I've

been very consistent on that position - that we as a government should stay out of people's wallets and people's bedrooms," Finegold said. "Just let people live."

In 2003, the state's Supreme Judicial Court ruled that the state constitution allows same-sex marriage. Approximately 8,000 gay marriages have been performed in Mass. since May 2004.

During last week's debate, an amendment to undo those marriages was unanimously defeated.

Andover Townsman

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Copy Deadlines

Advertising copy must be in the Townsman office by Monday at 5 p.m.
Camera-ready advertising copy is due by Tuesday at noon.
No cancellations honored after these deadlines.

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IN BRIEF

Calling all Nutcrackers! Last call

The *Townsmen* soon will publish a listing of local students who are performing in a version of the holiday classic *The Nutcracker*. The items will appear in the *Townsmen's* Thursday, Nov. 30 Holiday Gift Guide. Parents or dance instructors

who would like to provide write-ups and photos for this section must submit them to the *Townsmen*, Attn: Judy Wakefield, marketing, by noon on Monday, Nov. 20. People can also e-mail the information to jwakefield@eagletribune.com.

Help for ex-Smith & Nephew workers

The US Department of Labor has approved \$467,757 in emergency funding to assist Massachusetts workers including those who lost their jobs with the closing of the Smith & Nephew Inc. manufacturing facility in Andover.

The Workforce Investment Act grant will provide these workers with "wrap-around" services such as counseling, case management and other follow-up services.

"This is critical help for workers at Smith & Nephew whose lives have been upended by layoffs. It will give those who have been hurt the help they need to get back on their feet," said Sen. John Kerry in a release.

"The closing of Smith & Nephew's manufacturing plant in Andover this fall was very difficult for the 120 workers who were laid off. The funds from this National Emergency grant will give these workers the counseling and case management services they need to find good new jobs quickly so that they and their families aren't put at risk," said Sen. Ted Kennedy.

Health clinics

The Andover Health Department will offer a mini clinics on Monday, Nov. 27 from 1 to 2 p.m. at Frye Circle. Senior-center clinics will be held 2 to 3 p.m. each Wednesday, including Nov. 22 and 29. No appointment is necessary.

Improving Andover

After *Townsmen* deadline last night, on Wednesday, Nov. 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Andover Public Safety Center, selectmen hosted a mid-year review. The program focused on important capital improvement projects facing Andover, with opportunities for public input. The following projects were scheduled:

- Main Street improvements;
- Interstate 93 and Lowell Junction area interchange project and economic development opportunities;
- Ledge Road landfill capping and additional ball field construction;
- Reichhold Chemical Co. land acquisition and additional ball field construction;
- town yard - short and long term improvements; and a
- youth center status report.

Quote, unquote . . .

IT'S A MATTER OF PHYSICS. He's bigger, so he always wins.

- *Pernelia Singer Sears, on what happens at the piano when she and her husband, David, have difficulty while practicing four-hand piano music. The two will perform together this weekend. (Story in Arts, page 21)*

I CAN'T EVEN COUNT HOW MANY [life lessons] I've learned in that class, and it's only first semester.

- *Caroline Koch, a student in the Developing Leadership course at Andover High School. Other students in the class are launching a feature in the *Townsmen* this week. (Stories in Education, pages 6 and 7)*

News Calendar

Thursday, Nov. 16

Housing Authority, 100 Morton St., Stowe Court community room, 7 p.m.

Friday, Nov. 17

Board of Registrars, town clerk's office, 5 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 20

South School Improvement Council, South School conference room, 11:30 a.m.

Board of Selectmen, Town Offices, third floor conference room, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 21

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, first floor conference room, 7:30 a.m.

Conservation Commission, Town Offices, third floor conference room, 7:45 p.m.

Monday, Nov. 27

Tri-board meeting, Town Offices, third floor conference room, Board of Selectmen, Finance Committee and School Committee 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 28

Housing Trust Fund Board, Town Offices, second floor conference room, 4:30 p.m.

Planning Board, Town Offices, third floor conference room, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 29

Spring Grove Cemetery Trustees, Town Offices, Plant & Facilities conference room, 7:15 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30

Disability Commission, Memorial Hall Library, activity room, 7 p.m.

Deadlines to mail Christmas packages abroad

Sending a Christmas package overseas? Monday was the recommended deadline for people who want to send something Parcel Post to military APO/FPO addresses, according to Postmaster Michael C. Quinn. Other deadlines are approaching quickly.

With many Americas stationed or living abroad, residents are advised to mail different types of packages by the dates below to ensure they will be delivered by Dec. 25:

- Dec. 4: first-class cards and letters or Priority Mail to mili-

tary APO AE ZIP 093 addresses

- Dec. 11: first-class cards and letters or Priority Mail to all other military APO/FPO addresses

- Dec. 4: Global Airmail letters, cards and Global Airmail Parcel Post to Africa and Central or South America locations.

- Dec. 11: Global Airmail letters, cards and Global Airmail Parcel Post to other international mail locations

- Dec. 19: Global Express Guaranteed International Mail (except Canada, which is due by Dec. 20).

PAST AND PRESENT



OLDER PHOTO COURTESY OF ANDOVER HISTORICAL SOCIETY. MODERN DAY PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

In 1961 Lincoln Giles purchased the Hulme house at 93 Main St. and the Scott-Stowers house at 89 Main St. (visible in the top photo) to create a little mall called Olde Andover Village. Part of the wall was removed during renovation to the parking lot in 2004, as can be seen in the bottom photo, taken this week.

Early Friday deadline for *Townsmen's* Nov. 23 paper

The *Townsmen* will have an early deadline for next week's paper because of the Thanksgiving Day holiday. With the *Townsmen* printing on Tuesday, most material is due at the *Townsmen* office by tomorrow, Friday, at noon. This includes

advertising copy and information for items such as On Campus and the Events Calendar.

Letters to the editor should be arrive by Friday at 5 p.m., or, if sent by e-mail to nfater@andover-townsmen.com, must be sent by Monday at 9 a.m.

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TOWN OF ANDOVER
NOTICE TO RESIDENTS

LEAF COMPOSTING

The Town of Andover leaf compost site at Bald Hill on High Plain Road will be open for **Andover residents ONLY**



Monday - Saturday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm

October 2, 2006 - December 2, 2006

Open Sundays

November 12, 19, 26 and December 3, 2006

LAST DAY FOR DRIVE-IN - DECEMBER 3, 2006

WALK-IN IS AVAILABLE YEAR ROUND

Residents may drive in to drop off **leaves and grass clippings ONLY**, the dates listed above. Residents **MUST** remove their leaves & grass clippings from whatever container is used to transport. All contaminated loads will be rejected. The area is available for walk-ins at all times.

*Please walk your leaves & grass clippings past the gate.

*There are substantial fines for **ILLEGAL** dumping.

Directions to Bald Hill: Take Lowell St. (Route 133) to Greenwood Rd. (the traffic light just east of the IRS). Take Greenwood Rd. (0.8 miles) north to High Plain Rd., Take High Plain Rd. (1.0 miles) west to Bald Hill.

CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

The Town of Andover will be conducting Curbside Leaf collection for six (6) weeks in the Fall.



October 16, 2006 - December 1, 2006

NO collection during the week of the Thanksgiving Holiday

WHAT TO DO:

****No rocks, stones, branches or stumps**

Place leaves curbside by 7:00 a.m. on your regular trash collection day (Allied Waste/BFI will send a separate truck to specifically pick up leaves only).

HOW TO PREPARE LEAVES FOR PICKUP:

- Place leaves in open trash barrels (leaves ONLY)
- Place leaves in brown paper leaf compost bags, or
- Place leaves in CLEAR (only) plastic bags

BUNDLED BRANCHES

Branches are allowed in the weekly trash pickup, (subject to limitation of 3-4 bundles per week) and must be bundled with tape or rope as follows:

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Town to help clean up Superfund site

It contributed spent oil to polluted New Hampshire property

By Brian Messenger

Andover will soon pay more than \$60,000 to help clean up at a Plaistow, N.H., waste-oil site, which was used for years as a disposal site for old oil from town vehicles.

The amount, requested by the Environmental Protection Agency in the form of a consent decree, is a small fraction of the \$48 million needed to clean up the Beede Waste Oil Superfund Site. The site has contaminated surrounding residential drinking wells and already cost the EPA and New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services an additional \$19 million in investigative and interim cleanup costs.

Andover, which contributed 6,095 gallons of waste oil at the site, is expected to pay \$63,205.15, or \$10.35 per gallon of cleanup, according to Town Manager Buzz Staczynski.

"It has the weight of a court action," said Staczynski of the consent decree. "It's probably voluntary at this point, and we don't want it to become mandatory."

Of the several thousand contributors of waste oil at the Beede site, less than 50 have been identified as "major generators" that together contributed more than half of the contaminating oil, according to information

available on the EPA's Web site.

The largest contributor, Exxon Mobil Corp., sent over 1.5 million gallons of waste oil, according to news reports.

The EPA first began contacting parties with potential responsibility in the 1990s, said town Health Director Tom Carbone.

"The Superfund program is there to help cleanup the orphaned sites, the sites that have been ignored for whatever reason," Carbone said.

The Beede Waste Oil Company facility, which began operating during the 1970s, was not subject to EPA regulatory oversight during the 1980s because it had informed the state of New Hampshire that it was a waste oil recycler, according to the EPA's Web site.

The facility closed in 1994 and became a federal Superfund site two years later.

The site's most recent owner, Mark Henry, filed for bankruptcy after serving three years in federal prison for fraudulently claiming the site was a licensed facility.

According to the Superfund law, passed by Congress in 1980 to identify and accelerate the cleanup of the country's most hazardous toxic waste sites, generators of contaminating waste were considered liable to

fund any cleanup efforts.

According to information provided by the EPA, "By locating as many legally responsible parties as possible to assist in the cleanup process of the Beede site, the financial burden of cleaning up this heavily contaminated site is spread out most equitably and fairly amongst all the potentially responsible parties."

Andover, considered a "de minimis generator," by the EPA, fits into the category of those who contributed between 276 and 39,999 gallons of waste to the Beede site.

More than 80,000 gallons of oil was removed from the groundwater table in 2004, and cleanup work continues at the Beede site. Contributing contaminants that are the focus of the cleanup effort include polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), lead and volatile organic carbons (VOCs), as well as arsenic located in the sediment.

At the Nov. 6 selectmen's meeting, where the board voted 3-0 to authorize the payment, Staczynski said the town had set aside \$61,000 to cover such an expense.

"We always set some money aside for these court judgments, for this sort of thing," he said later, while adding at the meeting, "This is not a tax-raising measure."

Deal nixed to lock up affordable homes

By Colin Steele

The Riverview Commons apartments are for sale again, throwing a wrench into plans to preserve affordable housing in town.

The Housing Partnership Committee had a deal in place this summer for a nonprofit organization to buy the complex and keep 55 of its apartments available for low- to middle-income renters. But as the housing market slowed, the deal fell through, Housing Partnership member Susan Stott said. Now the apartment complex's owner, John M. Corcoran and Co., is seeking a new buyer who may not be interested in a similar arrangement. It is possible the non-profit organization could still buy the complex, but at a reduced amount.

"The buyer could be someone who has a relationship with the town, but it could be a buyer that we don't know at all," Stott said.

If Andover loses Riverview Commons' 55 affordable apart-

ments, less than 10 percent of the town's housing stock will count as affordable. Under Chapter 40B, the state's anti-snob zoning law, that would open up the town to developers who could appeal to the state to ignore local bylaws and build high-density housing.

"Those 55 could make the difference," Stott said. "They're very, very important to the town. It's silly not to keep the ones you have."

Riverview Commons was built in 1990 on Bulfinch Drive, off River Road. The deed restriction that sets aside 55 of its 220 apartments for renters who earn less than 80 percent of the area's median income expires this year. Housing Partnership members have been working with Corcoran since May 2004 to preserve that affordability at Riverview Commons.

Preservation of Affordable Housing Inc. (POAH), a Boston nonprofit housing agency, signed a purchase and sale

agreement for \$35 million in June 2006. But when POAH asked Corcoran to reduce the price in September, as real estate values tumbled across the state, Corcoran said no and POAH called off the deal, Stott said.

Riverview Commons went on the market last week. Cushman and Wakefield, a Boston real estate agency, will give tours of the 22.5-acre property over the next few weeks and

then solicit offers, according to an e-mail announcing the sale. There is no asking price.

POAH is still interested in buying the complex, and the Housing Partnership is still looking for money to subsidize the purchase and keep the 55 apartments affordable, Stott said. But it's still uncertain how things will turn out.

"We just don't know," Stott said. "This is new."

RIVERVIEW CHRONOLOGY

Summer 2003: Town reviews ways to preserve the affordability of 264 affordable units, at Riverview Commons (220 units, 55 affordable), Andover Commons (167 units, all affordable) and Brookside Estates (168 units, 42 affordable).

December 2003: Report indicates the affordability restrictions on the 55 units at Riverview Commons will begin to expire in February 2005 with last units expiring in November 2006.

May 2004: Andover Housing Partnership Committee and Rick High, Corcoran Company, have their first conversation regarding the affordable units at Brookside Estates. Rick High expresses Corcoran's willingness to work with the town to preserve the 55 affordable units. He indicates Corcoran is considering a condo conversion but will seek a buyer to do it.

October 2004: Town engages Emily Achtenberg to work with the AHPC and Corcoran to develop a strategy to preserve the 55 affordable units at Riverview Commons.

January 2005: Corcoran funds an appraisal of Riverview Commons to be commissioned by the town.

May 2005: Draft value of \$35 million is basis for town to seek a non-profit developer to organize an offer to Corcoran. AHPC approaches Preservation of Affordable Housing (POAH).

June 2006: Riverview and POAH enter into a purchase and sale agreement for \$35 million that would convert the market rate units to condos and preserve the 55 affordable units. Riverview, AHPC and POAH enter into a three-party agreement regarding obligations each has toward the other.

September 2006: POAH seeks to decrease the purchase price of Riverview saying \$35 million is no longer realistic due to the declining real estate value. Riverview wants to test the market before accepting reduction. POAH terminates the purchase-and-sale agreement, but continues to seek a for-profit partner for the market rate units.

November 2006: Riverview package available through a broker for interested buyers. POAH plans to submit a proposal.

SOURCE: SUSAN STOTT, ANDOVER HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

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We at Driscoll's would like to thank all those who voted in the recent November election. In particular, we would like to express our deepest appreciation and gratitude to all of you who voted NO on Question #1. Your vote, your kind words and "thumbs up" show of support were overwhelming and will never be forgotten.

Thank you again
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WARM GESTURE



From left, Megan Quinn, Zach Sargent, Jackie Drew, Cassandra Hunt, and (missing) Emma Oskar of the West Elementary School student council worked with the Community Cares committee to collect 301 coats for needy families.

POLICE LOG

ARRESTS

Wednesday, Nov. 8 – At 3:02 p.m., Peter K. Kabingu, 34, of 3 River Place, Lowell, was arrested and charged with operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Friday, Nov. 10 – At 3:33 a.m., Mounir Zalaket, 57, of 257 North Main St., was arrested and charged with a marked lanes violation, speeding and operating under the influence as a second offense.

At 3 p.m., Roberto Carlos Barbosa, 38, of 79 Arlington St., Framingham, was arrested and charged with lewd, wanton and lascivious conduct, resisting arrest, and assault and battery on a police officer.

Saturday, Nov. 11 – At 5:20 p.m., Frank J. Santora, 20, of 7 Heather Drive, Wilmington, was arrested and charged with possession of a Class B substance, possession of a Class B substance with intent to distribute, and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license as a subsequent offense.

At 9:02 p.m., Sarah T. Linne-mann, 18, of 41 School St., was arrested and charged as a person under 21 in possession of liquor and possession of a fake ID.

Monday, Nov. 13 – At 1:47 p.m., Edwin Cintron, 37, of 74 Decatur St., Charlestown, was arrested on warrant for motor vehicle charges.

INCIDENTS

Saturday, Nov. 11 – At 1:33 a.m., La Quinta staff on River Road reported five or six hotel rooms with three people within each being very noisy. An officer reported that all parties in the rooms were spoken to.

THEFTS

Saturday, Nov. 11 – At 12:42 a.m., the Main Street CVS reported two shoplifters, one male and the other female, who took a \$90 razor and left the store on foot.

Monday, Nov. 13 – At 11:56 a.m., a woman on Phillips Street called to report \$400 was stolen

from her wallet.

AUTO INCIDENTS

Tuesday, Nov. 14 – At 5:48, a woman on Paulonette Circle reported that her husband's iPod was taken from his motor vehicle sometime over the weekend.

AUTO ACCIDENTS

Wednesday, Nov. 8 – At 7:35 a.m., a 911 call reported a two-car motor vehicle crash with air bag deployment on River Road.

At 1:20 p.m., a three-car crash with personal injury on Harding Street was reported. One car was towed from the scene.

At 6:06 p.m., a 911 call reported a four-car crash at the intersection of North Main and Harding streets.

Thursday, Nov. 9 – At 10:29 a.m., an officer reported a hit-and-run involving two vehicles.

At 5:40 p.m., state police reported a motor vehicle crash on Route 93.

COMPILED BY BRIAN MESSINGER

Gator found near AVIS path

■ ALLIGATOR

Continued from page 1

One of the officers grabbed the alligator with his bare hands before bringing the reptile to the animal hospital.

"We did capture a small alligator that appeared to have been released," said Andover Police Lt. Jim Hashem. "It must have been someone's pet."

"There's no way that it could have come from the wild," agreed Lincoln. "He definitely had been a pet."

Although Lincoln said he's treated exotic animals in the past, having worked at a zoo,

he's never come in contact with an alligator in his six years at the Andover Animal Hospital.

"It was a little unexpected,"

he said.

"We've had all sorts of [animals]," Diane Tower, the hospital's owner, said. "But never an alligator."

Lincoln said the animal was like "an ice cube" when it was brought in.

"He was cold enough that he was in danger of dying," he said.

The alligator was treated for hypothermia, released from the animal hospital the same day, and was then brought to a rep-

tile facility where other professionals "both legally and medically could take care of him," Hamilton said.

Hamilton said it is illegal to have an alligator as a pet without a specialized permit.

"But they don't give those special permits out to just anybody," he said. Usually, such permits are allowed if the alligator is being used for educational purposes, he said.

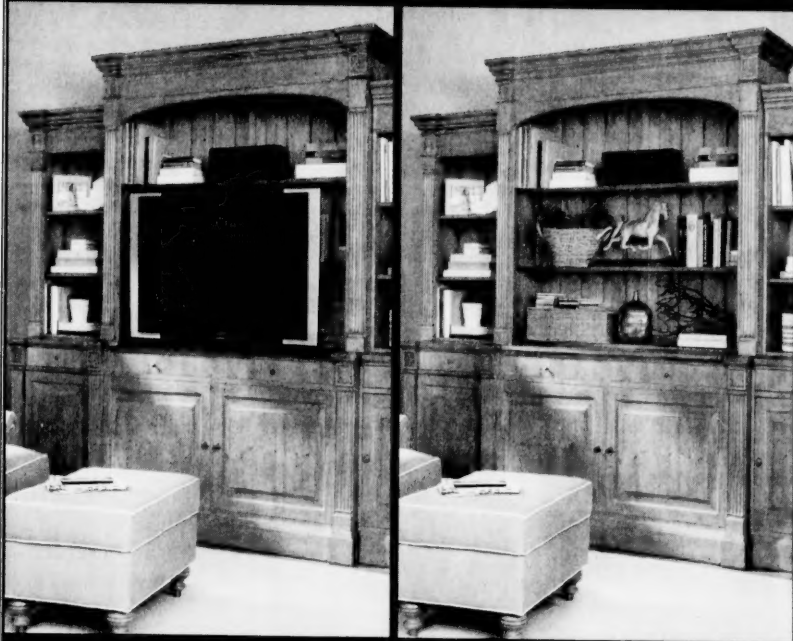
Hamilton said it was extremely unlikely that the alligator had been born in the river area, and he believed someone had probably dropped it off in the woods.

ONCE UPON A TIME...



Cecilia Rogers (left) and Phillis White read to first grade students at West Elementary School during the Andover/North Andover League of Women Voters' Community Read Along. People are reading at different Andover schools throughout this week.

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Education

BOOK REVIEW

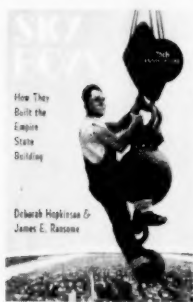
Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building

BY DEBORAH HOPKINSON

ILLUSTRATED BY JAMES RANSOME

Reviewed by John Chartier

This week, book reviewer John Chartier takes a look at the story behind one of America's most treasured monuments, the Empire State Building, and what it has meant to countless people over the years.



In the book *Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building*, Deborah Hopkinson tells the story of the immortal building and what its creation meant to our country's citizens in the time in which it was built – the Great Depression.

In the 1930s, the United States was going through a rough time. During the Great Depression, many people were without jobs, the economy was slow, and many families had a hard time making ends meet. At the same time, the Empire State Building was being built in Manhattan, creating jobs for many people and heralding in new feelings of hope at the prospect of the world's tallest building looming over the city.

One of the most original aspects of this book is that *Sky Boys* is told as if the reader is actually a part of this era, watching the building being built first-hand.

This is a great book to read aloud with the entire family and talk about what it would have been like to live in the time when the Empire State Building was built.

It is a book that is appropriate for readers of all ages, and will be especially enjoyed by those who like reading about history.

James Ransome's illustrations are exceptional additions to the great story, and do a great job of enhancing the awe the reader feels as he imagines watching this massive building being erected far into the sky above the city of Manhattan.

I give *Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building* by Deborah Hopkinson a well-deserved nine out of 10 rating. It is an excellent, entertaining look at a pivotal piece of our country's history and what it has meant to so many generations through the years.

So head on down to your local bookstore or library, and pick up your very own copy of *Sky Boys: How They Built the Empire State Building* by Deborah Hopkinson today! Make sure you pay attention to the many buildings going up around town, because you never know what they might become someday!

A class of leaders

'Andover Townsman Club' will give AHS student writers options

By April Guilmet

WHEN Kristina Fuerst, Kerry Gaj and David Geohegan signed up for Principal Peter Anderson's Developing Leadership class, they could not have predicted the elective course for upperclassmen would lead them to journalism.

While none of them think they're headed for careers at newspapers, the three Andover High seniors will soon become regular fixtures at the *Andover Townsman*.

Students in Anderson's class – described in the school's course catalog as a study of leaders – are urged to exercise their own leadership skills hands-on.

So, in the spirit of leadership, Anderson asked his groups of students to conceive, develop and implement a project that would be of benefit to their community, the high school.

"We were doing our own version of the *Apprentice* show, where people were hired or fired," said Fuerst. While other groups in the class suggested filming a documentary of the school's basketball team and another wanted to focus on making floats for the town's holiday parade, ultimately Fuerst's group was "hired."

Their idea? A regular feature in the *Andover Townsman* – with a twist. "The idea is to show people that high school students are really good people, who care about their community. I'm tired of people always just talking about the bad things kids do," Fuerst said.

Townsman editor Neil Fater supported the idea, which dovetails with the paper's existing WHAT'S UP program that allows college and high school students interested in journalism to write for the paper.

While community service is already encouraged throughout the high school, it's not something that typically gets much attention, said Gaj.

"This aspect just isn't regularly addressed, so we'd like to talk about it," Gaj said.

Thus, the unofficially named "Andover Townsman Club" was born. The three honor students said the club will give students interested in jour-



From left, Kristina Fuerst, David Geohegan and Kerry Gaj will write for the *Andover Townsman* as part of a Developing Leadership course at Andover High School.

nalism options besides the school's literary magazine and newspaper. They hope the club to continue for years to come, even though they themselves will all graduate this spring. And

even though, they are not particularly interested in journalism themselves.

"Kristina and I aren't huge fans of writing," said Gaj, while Fuerst simply laughed when

asked if she's considering a future in writing. "Absolutely not!" she said.

Geohegan remains undecided, but said his main passion is

Continued on page 7

Student leaders at AHS

Motivated to serve others



Lauren Hartel (left) and her sister, Jill.

The following is the first in what will be a series of articles about Andover High School students involved in community service. They are written as part of the Developing Leadership course by students Kristina Fuerst, Kerry Gaj and David Geohegan.

LAUREN HARTEL IS ONE of the most friendly and outgoing Andover High School seniors. Extremely active in the student body, she also created a team for this year's 18th Annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk, the Jimmy Fund's largest fundraiser.

Lauren has been an avid fundraiser for the Jimmy Fund ever since her twin sister, Jill, died from leukemia at age 6. Because the cause is close to her heart, she has walked for other teams previously.

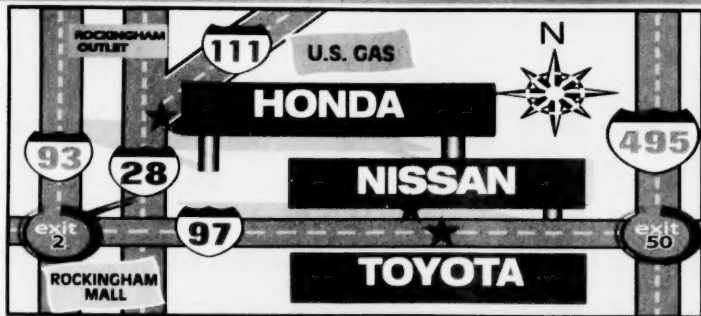
"Not only was her death a tragic and unbearable event, but so was every day before that in

Continued on page 7

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Leadership: Students challenged to educate their peers

Beats of different drummers

By Brian Messenger

WHEN MANY PEOPLE THINK OF steel drums, the first thing that comes to mind is a commercial advertising tropical vacations. Berklee College of Music Professor Ron Reid said he knows this.

"But it's much more than that," said Reid. "The image that is usually portrayed is that it's a happy-go-lucky, well-known thing."

The sound of the steel drums echoing from the Collins Center was certainly welcomed by Andover High School students on Nov. 8, as Reid and eight Berklee students performed for more than 20 AHS classes that morning.

The performance took place thanks to the efforts of students enrolled in a Developing Leadership course taught to juniors and seniors by Principal Peter Anderson. Challenged by their principal to help introduce lesser-known instruments to the AHS community, three students chose the steel drums, contacting Reid and arranging for a musical demonstration as part of

their pitch to start a related course at the school.

In the Developing Leadership class of 26 students, Anderson breaks those enrolled up into teams and assigns them relatively out-of-the-ordinary tasks that they must complete together.

"If you're going to lead, you need to know how to work well with a team," said Anderson, now in his third year teaching the class.

While the team made up of AHS seniors Colin Brennan, Caroline Koch and Zach Zemlin chose the steel drums, another group chose to

highlight various instruments already played by students at the school, including the bagpipes, castanet, shofar and two-sided flute.

The two teams prepared for formal presentations the night of the steel drum demonstration before a panel made up of parents, Humanities Department Director Ron Holland and former school superintendent Ken Seifert.

Answering questions from the panel, the students stated their cases of why their chosen

instruments should be incorporated at the high school as a music elective.

According to Koch, 17, the decision between the two teams on Nov. 8 was a draw, and, while bringing steel drums to AHS might be a little too expensive to execute, she said the response from the student body was positive.

"I think it went really well in the end," Koch said. "I think kids were pleased with it."

Of 250 students surveyed, Koch said, only 15 who saw the performance said they were not interested in having steel drums as a class at AHS.

Reid, who moved to the United States from Trinidad in 1985 to attend Berklee, said steel drums were invented in his home country in the early 1940s by a young man using discarded oil drums.

They are set up for performance much like a traditional orchestra, with a soprano pan (traditionally called a tenor pan) acting as the lead instrument. A second range of drums acts as support to the soprano pan: double tenor pans, guitar pans, triple cello pans, and multiple sets of tenor bass and bass drum pans all contribute to the sound and form a collective groove, he said.

"Steel drums are now played all over the world," Reid said. "I think it's definitely on the rise."

Twenty-four instruments



A collective groove — Berklee College of Music Professor Ron Reid and his students perform on their steel drums for more than 20 AHS classes. Below: Michael Weiss plays with the group.

were used on the Collins Center stage, plus a traditional drum set. The eight students playing are all in a percussion class taught by Reid, and their experience with the steel drum goes back only to the beginning of the fall semester.

"Both groups we're particularly interested in a cultural aspect," said Anderson of his students.

There are no quizzes or tests in the Developing Leadership class, Anderson said. Instead, students participate in class discussions based off readings, practice public speaking and examine the attributes that make effective leaders.

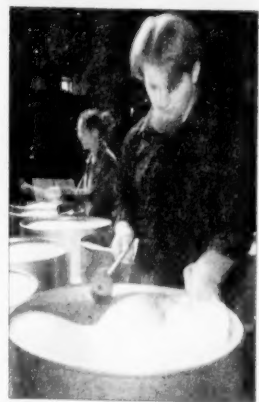
Anderson estimated that four team projects are assigned to students throughout the course, which counts as half a credit in social studies.

"It takes you out of your

comfort zone and I think that's part of the point," said Brennan, also 17. "This is new for me. It's more practical than any other classes I've taken during my high school career."

Koch, who wants to study event management when she goes to college, said the course has surged in popularity at the high school since it was adopted three years ago.

"I learned so much," she said. "So many life lessons, I can't even count how many I've learned in that class, and it's only first semester."



LUNCH MENUS

Here's what's for lunch in the Andover public schools next week, Nov. 20-22:

Elementary schools

Monday: Nachos with taco meat and cheese sauce, grilled hot dog on roll with pickles, baked beans, veggie sticks, fruit and juice.

Tuesday: Chicken tenders, meatball sub, oven baked potatoes, corn, fruit and juice.

Wednesday: No LUNCH — Early release.

Thursday: THANKSGIVING DAY — No school.

Friday: HOLIDAY — No school.

Middle schools

Monday: Nachos with taco meat and cheese, veggies, grilled hot dog on roll, meatball sub, baked beans, cucumber sticks, fruit and juice.

Tuesday: Pizza, Hot Pockets, sherbet, fruit and juice.

Wednesday: No LUNCH — Early release.

Thursday: THANKSGIVING DAY — No school.

Friday: HOLIDAY — No school.

Andover High School

Monday: Shepherd's pie with side salad, dinner roll, fruit and milk.

Tuesday: Taco bar with all the toppings, Spanish rice, fruit and milk.

Wednesday: No LUNCH — Early release.

Thursday: THANKSGIVING DAY — No school.

Friday: HOLIDAY — No school.

Also available a la carte daily at the elementary and middle schools: bottled water and 100 percent juice; lowfat ice cream and yogurt; bagel with light cream cheese, yogurt, fresh fruit of the season, and milk.

At Andover High School there is a wrap/deli bar with sandwiches made to order with favorite toppings, plus a daily sandwich offering, daily specials, and panini specials.

For prices or other information about lunches, call Gail Koutroubas, food services director, at 978-623-8622.

Inspired by her sister

■ LAUREN HARTEL

Continued from page 6

which my family fought for Jill's life and health. No one should have to go through the horrible experiences that we faced, and thanks to the Dana-Farber, the number of people that do becomes fewer each year," she said.

In the past 17 years, walkers and their supporters have contributed more than \$40 million to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute for cancer research and patient care, according to organizers. The walk takes place in Boston every September and has three different routes: the whole 26.2-mile marathon route, or shorter distances of 13.1 miles and 3 miles.

Each year more than 6,000 people participate. The walk ends in Copley Square, where a

celebration awaits with lots of food and music.

Lauren's Team, Team Hartel, successfully recruited 38 walkers and raised \$27,895 in its first year, \$2,795 coming from Lauren herself.

"I've been participating in at least the last eight walks, but this year was by far the most rewarding. I couldn't believe the effort that all of my teammates were putting in. I had expected most kids to just raise the minimum, but many of them raised over double that," said Lauren.

Lauren plans to register Team Hartel in next year's walk and will continue her support for the Jimmy Fund.

"This walk means everything to me," she says. Donations can be made online until Jan. 31 at www.jimmyfundwalk.org/lhartertel.

Student writers at AHS

■ LEADERSHIP CLASS

Continued from page 6

collecting model trains. As recent founder of the school's Railroad Club, he said he had "a pretty large basement layout of models set up."

What all could agree on, however, was importance of community service. Gaj volunteers at both a hospital and Marland Place, while Fuerst is active on the student leadership council and teaches piano to middle school children.

Previous projects in Anderson's class helped to season their journalistic talents.

"I had to find a female athlete who made it her livelihood in the 1950s, and I found a woman who was part of the American Girls Professional Baseball League during that time. It was very interesting to talk to her,"

Gaj said.

Likewise, Fuerst had an equally challenging assignment. Many years ago, the Canadian Club Whiskey Co. buried whiskey barrels around the globe.

It was Fuerst's job to find someone who'd dug one up. And here's the final catch — no Internet searching was allowed.

"At first we had no idea where to start. But Mr. Anderson had a college friend who was rumored to be involved," Fuerst said.

Anderson's fellow Colgate alumni, David Mattoon, had discovered the case of whiskey at the base of Angel Falls in Venezuela.

"It was really exciting. At first we had no idea [what to do]. Really, really cool," Fuerst said.

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VETERANS DAY IN ANDOVER



Above, State Sen. Susan C. Tucker (left) presents World War II Richard Condon, 93, a framed box of his medals during services at Ballardvale Green on Nov. 11. Condon was also given an honorary rank of Private First Class by John Doherty, Andover's veterans services director. Doherty (inset) will retire from his role as the town's veterans services director in April.

At left, Francis Plouffe, of Clan MacPherson, plays the bagpipes during services in the American Legion lot at Spring Grove Cemetery.



Jessica Kasiama, 8, releases a balloon at West Parish Cemetery during Veterans Day services in Andover this Saturday. A balloon was released for each Andover veteran who died during the past year. Seventy balloons were released, representing 42 World War II, 20 Korean War and 11 Vietnam War veterans. Three Andover veterans served in more than one war.

NOVEMBER 11, 2006

PHOTOS BY TIM JEAN

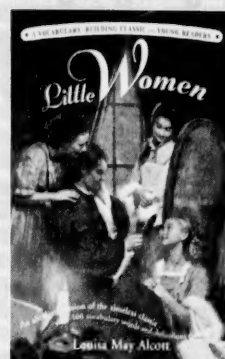


Joseph Wright (center) leads the Andover High School Marching Band at Spring Grove Cemetery.

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OBITUARIES

Evelyn M. Johnson

Formerly of Andover, she was a member of the Historical Society

Evelyn M. Johnson, 94, of Ipswich, formerly of Andover and Saugus, died Saturday, Nov. 4 at the Masconomet Healthcare Center in Topsfield, after an extended illness.

Born in Chesterville, Maine on Oct. 11, 1912, she was the daughter of the late Gilbert and Mary (Webb) Symes.

She was raised in Portland, Maine by her maternal grandmother.

She was a graduate of Portland High School and New England Business School.

She worked for Central Maine Power until she married Philip Davidson in 1940 and they lived in Saugus.

Mrs. Johnson was a Sunday school teacher at the Trinity Methodist Church in Lynn.

After the death of her husband, she continued to work as a secretary for Sears & Roebuck Department Store until her

retirement.

Mrs. Johnson married the late Harold Johnson in 1974 and lived in Andover for the next 23 years. While living in Andover she was a member of the Andover Historical Society and enjoyed volunteering at the Andover Thrift Shop.

Mrs. Johnson spent her summers at her family home in Georgetown, Maine. She enjoyed sailing, gardening, and antiquing as well as spending time with her grandchildren, great-grandchildren and many friends.

Members of her family include her daughter, Elizabeth Ellis and her husband Ron of Wakefield; her son, Peter Davidson and his wife Amy of Ipswich; seven grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

A memorial service was held at the McDonald Funeral Home in Wakefield on Nov. 9.

Interment was private.

OBITUARIES ARE SUPPLIED BY FUNERAL HOMES AND FAMILY MEMBERS

Memorial contributions in her name may be made to The Alzheimer's Foundation of America, 322 Eighth Ave., sixth floor, New York, NY 10001.

Robert G. Rikeman

27-year resident

Robert G. Rikeman, 64, of Andover, formerly of Revere, died Nov. 10 after a brief illness.

Mr. Rikeman was raised in Revere, and was a graduate of Revere High School, class of 1960.

After graduation Mr. Rikeman served in the US Marines during the Vietnam War.

An Andover resident for the past 27 years, he worked in sales and marketing.

Members of his family include his wife, Joanne (De-laPiana) Rikeman; sons Robert G. Jr. and his wife Stacy, and Stephen M. and Renee Rikeman; and two grandchildren, Savannah and Brooks Rikeman, all of Andover; and his mother, Evalyn (Lurie) Rikeman.

He was the son of the late

DEATHS

Irene R. Bernard, 94
Mary Elizabeth Fuller, 87
Edith Gagne, 84
Arlene A. Giglio, 77
Conrad P. Jodoin
Evelyn M. Johnson, 94
David W. Lermond, 62
Giuseppe Mottola, 73
Robert G. Rikeman, 64

DEATHS ELSEWHERE

GAGNE — Edith Gagne, 84, of Windham, N.H., died at her home on Monday, Nov. 13. Hospital in Burlington. Members of her family include her sister, Gertrude Pothier of Andover.

GIGLIO — Arlene A. (Assaf) Giglio, 77, of Salem, N.H., died Saturday, Nov. 11, at the Oxford in Haverhill. For 20 years she was employed with the Internal Revenue Service in Andover.

JODOIN — Conrad "Connie" P. Jodoin, 70, of York, Maine, died on Nov. 9 at the Lahey Hospital in Burlington. Members of his family include his son Christopher Jodoin and his wife Carolyn of Andover.

Walter Rikeman.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Jimmy Fund, 10 Brookline Place, Brookline, MA 02455.

Interment was in Woodlawn Cemetery.

Arrangements were by the Paul Buonfiglio & Sons-Bruno Funeral Home, 128 Revere St., Revere.

Mary E. Fuller

Was 1937 Punchard grad

Mary Elizabeth (Sparks) Fuller, 87, a longtime Haverhill resident, died Sunday, Nov. 12 at Green Briar Terrace in Nashua, N.H.

Born in Andover, July 7, 1919, she was the daughter of the late William H. and Alexandra "Ina" (Brown) Sparks and was a graduate of Punchard High School of Andover, class of 1937.

Mrs. Fuller went on to receive her nursing degree at the Faulkner School of Nursing in Brookline, and worked as a private duty nurse for many years.

She enjoyed quilting and made many beautiful quilts.

She was the beloved wife of the late Paul Kenneth Fuller, who died in 1987.

Members of her family include her son, Glen S. Fuller of Colorado; her daughter, Virginia A. Manley of Chelmsford; two sisters, Margaret G. Sparks of Palo Alto, Calif., and Anne G. Hobson of Houston; as well as 10 grandchildren; many great-grandchildren; and four nephews.

Funeral services will be held today, Thursday, at 11 a.m. at Paul C. Rogers & Sons Family Funeral Home, 334 Main St., Haverhill, followed by interment on her family lot in Spring Grove Cemetery, Andover.

Visitation at the funeral home will be Thursday, immediately prior to the services, from 9:30 to 10:45 a.m.

David W. Lermond

Grew up and was educated in Andover

David W. Lermond, 62, a resident of Pepperell and a former longtime Dracut resident, died

Saturday, Nov. 11 at Nashoba Valley Medical Center in Ayer, after a brief illness.

He was the husband of the late Carol Ann (Waldie) (Wojtkun) Lermond, to whom he was married for 23 years.

He was born in Worcester, April 5, 1944, son of the late Alice (Rayla) and Harold Lermond.

He grew up and was educated in Andover.

He attended West Point Military Academy in Georgia.

Mr. Lermond retired as truck driver. He was a member of Teamsters Local 49.

He lived in Dracut for 34 years before moving to Pepperell four years ago.

He is survived by his stepchildren, John Wojtkun Jr. of Odessa, Texas, Mary Beth Wojtkun of Salem, N.H., Mark Wojtkun and Amy Lawless of Derry, N.H., Kathleen Wells of Sanbornton, N.H., Carolyn and Mark DeCarteret of Pelham, N.H., and Janina and Stephen Gath of Dracut; 13 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; two special aunts, Sylvia and Marion Lermond of Northbridge.

He was also the father of the late Steven Lermond, and the nephew of the late Florence Adams.

Calling hours were scheduled for yesterday, Wednesday, Nov. 15 from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Dracut Funeral Home, 2159 Lakeview Ave., Dracut.

A funeral service will take place today, Thursday, Nov. 16, at 10 a.m. at the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Nashoba Nursing Service & Hospice, 2 Shaker Road, Suite D225, Shirley, MA 01464.

Irene R. Bernard

Had 32 great-grandchildren

Irene R. (Vachon) Bernard, 94, died Wednesday, Nov. 8, at Wingate at Andover.

Born in Lawrence, she was a graduate of Sacred Heart Grammar and High School of South Lawrence.

Mrs. Bernard was a homemaker and mother of five children, many grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

According to her family, she enjoyed sewing and knitting, and they considered her to be the consummate cook.

She loved being with her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren.

She was the widow of Albert

L. Bernard.

Members of her family include her daughters, Claire T. and her husband George Johnson of Ft. Myers, Fla., Rita M. and husband Raymond Sitka of Salem, N.H., Rena I. and husband Joseph Sullivan of Florida; two sons, Raymond A. and wife Katherine Bernard of Methuen, and Donald L. and wife Theresa Bernard of Florida; 19 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, one great-great-grandchild; and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a grandson, Kevin Mallette.

Burial was in Sacred Heart Cemetery in Andover. Arrangements were by the Kenneth H. Pollard Funeral Home, Inc., 233 Lawrence St., Methuen.

Memorial contributions may be made to the charity of one's choice.

Giuseppe Mottola

Immigrated here in 1960

Giuseppe Mottola, 73, of Andover, died Nov. 11 at Lawrence General Hospital.

Born in raised in Italy, Mr. Mottola came to the United States in 1960.

He was the son of the late Antonio and Giuseppina (Mirra) Mottola.

Members of his family include his wife, Doris E. (Dial) Mottola of Andover; a daughter, Juli and her husband Josh Hall of Fayetteville, Ga.; a son, Albert Giangregorio of Andover; sisters, Carmela Grieco of Bonito, Italy, and Olimpia Colarusso of St. George, Italy; brothers, Giacomo Mottola of Milano, Italy, and Erminio Mottola of St. George, Italy; two grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

A funeral Mass will be said tomorrow, Friday, at 10:30 a.m. at St. Augustine Church in Andover.

Family and friends may call today, Thursday, from 4 to 8 p.m. at the Dewhirst & Conte Funeral Home, 28 Florence St., Andover, 01810.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Lung Association, One Abbey Lane, Middleboro, MA 02346; or to the American Diabetes Association, 330 Congress Street, fifth floor, Boston, MA 02210.

FAX OBITUARIES TO THE TOWNSMAN: 978-475-5731

ALL THOSE YEARS AGO

100 Years Ago — 1906

Mrs. Abbie M. Smart has gone to Cambridge, where she will spend the winter.

Mrs. Harry Hodgdon of Kittery Point, Maine, is visiting her mother on High Street.

Don't fail to see Salisbury's moving pictures in the Town Hall tomorrow evening.

A Mass for the repose of the soul of John Connelly was held in St. Augustine Church on Tuesday morning.

All those who are intending to become members of the Abbot Village Coal Society should remember that the first payment is to be this evening.

The many local friends of H. N. Bullock, the former Andover football star, will be sorry to learn that he has been declared ineligible to play on the Dartmouth football team this year.

Memorial Hall Library is now open continuously from three in the afternoon till nine in the evening, and the number of people who find this arrangement a great convenience is steadily increasing.

Great preparations are being made for the Mock Court Trial under the auspices of the Andover lodge, No. 230, IOOF, in the lower Town Hall on Tuesday evening, Nov. 20.

A children's class in dancing was formed in the Pilgrim Hall last Friday afternoon, the instructor being Professor Labonte of Lawrence. It is the intention of those in charge to give one lesson a week during winter. Professor Labonte's reputation as a dancing instructor is too well known to need any comment, and as there are still a few vacancies for children, all those who wish to enter should take the opportunity.

Judge and Mrs. George W. Cann returned last Saturday from the wilds of Maine, where the former spent about a month in a profitable hunting expedition. The judge is a crack shot and the proceeds of his marksmanship consisted of two deer, a bear, and four cubs, as well as much smaller game. His two deer have been on exhibition in Wakefield's market and the bear skins are being made into rugs.

75 Years Ago — 1931

Memorial Hall Library has been an extremely busy place during October. It has issued for home use 5,788 books, of which 1,717 were borrowed from the Junior Room.

November 7 was the date set for the completion of the Andover-Reading highway up to the by-pass. However, the road was not finished on time. At this point, the contractor, Patrick J. Holland of Lawrence, has been faced with the engineering problem of constructing a road that would not sink as time passed.

Controversy over the merit of the present art exhibit from the Bliss collection of modern French art has broken out among the faculty members of Phillips Academy.

Thirteen-year-old Earl Townsend of Andover Street, Ballardville, who told police during the day that he had been shot by some person, last night told Officer Carl H. Stevens that

he accidentally shot himself.

William Webster Ellsworth will lecture in Davis Hall, Abbot Academy on Tuesday, Nov. 10. In his lecture, "The Victorian Age," Mr. Ellsworth will deal with a large array of famous names.

The Red Cross Call starts Wednesday.

The Free Church Players will stage a three-act comedy, "Chintz Cottage" tonight in the parish house.

Andover Grange, 183, will hold a Parent-Teachers' night at its next regular meeting, Tuesday evening, in Grange Hall.

It is a real pleasure for the *Townsmen* to congratulate the Rev. Frederick B. Noss as well as the parish upon the occasion of his installation as pastor of the South Church.

Thanksgiving baskets for the needy of the town will be distributed again this year, it was decided Wednesday at a meeting of the Andover Mothers' Club in Punchard High School.

Although the Andover Historical Society's board of directors adjourned from their meeting Monday night to attend the dedication of the new home of the Danvers Historical Society, they did not attend this ceremony expecting to see a "family reunion." However, among the party from Andover was Mrs. Joseph Ashton. To her surprise, the new historical building has been erected adjoining her old family homestead, the Page place.

50 Years Ago — 1956

A testimonial luncheon honoring Tyer Rubber Co. will be held Nov. 8 at 12:15 in Masonic Hall in Lawrence.

Post 8, American Legion, sponsored a Veterans Day dinner Nov. 10 in the Post quarters. The Blue Devils will be trying for their fifth win in six starts Saturday afternoon when they meet a rugged Winthrop 11 at the Playstead.

The annual slogan "Visit Your Schools" will soon be heard again. The week of Nov. 11-17 is Education Week with the theme "Schools for a Strong America."

Liberty bells will be hung on door knobs all over town Saturday by Cubs and Boy Scouts.

The state is ready to go forward with Rogers Brook drainage.

Gerry Fleischli believes in getting the jump on competition. Thus the Punchard High student spends most of his time in a home-built chemistry lab, constructing experiments in plastics and the analysis of elements.

Dan Barberian, 5 Chester St., survived one of the worst train-truck collisions in the town's history Monday morning.

A bakery sale, sponsored by the Punchard High School Library Club and headed by Pat Murnane, chairman of the activity committee, was held at Cole's Hardware Store last month. All members of the group helped by supplying the bakery goods.

The Bluebird group of Littlest Listeners will have their story and music hour on Wednesday morning at 10 o'clock in Memorial Hall

Library. Children reaching their third birthdays may enter the group at any time during the year.

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Finger are on their way back to Andover, via Houston, Texas, and New Orleans, after an extended trip to the West Coast.

25 Years Ago — 1981

After interviewing two candidates for town manager this week, the selectmen are playing their cards close to the vest on where the search for the new manager will now lead.

A new school policy on student alcohol- and drug use could take the emphasis off expulsion from school and place it on counseling — but the School Committee wants to make sure the policy still "puts the fear of God" into students.

Addison Art Gallery is paying tribute to Howard Yezerski, owner of Andover Art Gallery, for his efforts in promoting the work of area artists.

Selectmen looked at Francis P. Reilly's plans for the conversion of the Bradlee School and found them quite acceptable.

The Andover High School Golden Warrior Marching Band hosted its second annual Marching Band Show and Competition on Veterans Day, Nov. 11, at at Lovely Field.

Greater Lawrence's barber-shop chorus, The Townsmen, competed with the top 22 chorus finalists in Lake Placid, N.Y., on Oct. 24 and finished ninth.

Residents are reminded that the town no longer picks up leaves at roadsides and, in fact, those who place mounds of fallen leaves on a public way are actually in violation of a town bylaw.

The annual bicycle auction will be conducted at the police station on Saturday, Nov. 21.

With the School Committee voting about 600 walkers back onto school buses, most of the families who indicated an interest in independent bus service are now using buses, have adjusted to walking, or have formed satisfactory car pools.

During a regular meeting at Town Hall Monday night, the selectmen approved permits for New England Telephone and Telegraph and for Massachusetts Electric, along with four sewer connections.

Gov. King may have nixed it once again, but the Andover selectmen favor the long-suffering bottle bill, and will write to legislators urging them to override King's veto.

AVIS held its annual dinner meeting on Tuesday, Nov. 10, at the Christian Formation Center, 475 River Road.

10 Years Ago — 1996

After squeaking through Andover with a 12-vote lead, Barry R. Finegold was carried to the 17th Essex state representative seat by the voters of heavily-Democratic Lawrence.

Downtown Andover will have lights for the holidays, thanks in part to a group of local merchants and individuals who would not let an Andover tradition die.

— Compiled by WHAT'S UP contributor Michelle Wiener

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Opinion

Say 'Later, gator' to impulse buys

NEWS THAT AN ALLIGATOR was found in Andover is one of those stories we bet most people had to read. We can only imagine the surprise of resident Laurie Farrell when she nearly stepped atop the reptile. But perhaps something can be learned from the story.

Police and the veterinarian who treated the near-death gator believe it was a abandoned pet. Presumably, the alligator grew too large for the person who owned it to care for, and that person chose to discard it in the Andover woods. Given the temperatures in New England this time of year, the cold-blooded animal was left to die.

While having a pet alligator is unusual – and apparently illegal without government approval – the alligator is not the first pet to be discarded by owners who learn too late that they aren't willing to care for an animal. As we approach the winter holidays, many people consider pets as an irresistible gift. But each winter, local shelters fill up with animals that people decide they cannot support.

Andover's alligator can serve as a reminder that pets – not just exotic pets, but dogs, cats, rabbits and more – should not be given or accepted until a great deal of research about its care is done. The new pet's owners must have time, money, discipline and commitment. Animals should not be "gifted" to someone as if they are alligator shoes to be tossed aside when they are no longer attractive.

Web question

What's your priority?

Last week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question was: Do you support the recent decision of selectmen, against the advice of the police department, to close off Main Street from 5 to 9 p.m. for Holiday Happenings on Dec. 1?

- 50 people responded.
- 36 people, or 72 percent, said, "Yes, it's a great event and closing off the Main Street to traffic makes it much more enjoyable."
- 6 people, or 12 percent, said, "Yes, attracting so many people downtown and still permitting traffic is a safety hazard."
- 5 people, or 10 percent, said, "No, I agree with the police department."
- 2 people, or 4 percent, said, "No, it is inconvenient."
- 1 person, or 2 percent, said, "Other."

This week's *Andover Townsman* Web-site question is: **Of the major town projects discussed at the Board of Selectmen's mid-year review yesterday, which capital improvement are you most concerned with seeing accomplished?**

- Main Street improvements.
- Interstate 93 / Lowell Junction interchange project.
- Additional ball field construction at both the Ledge Road Landfill and Reichold Chemical site.
- Improvements and expansion of the Town Yard located behind the Safety Center.
- Building a Youth Center behind Doherty Middle School.
- Other.

To vote, surf to www.andovertownsmen.com.

LETTERS POLICY

THE *Townsman* accepts letters to the editor from the community. Letters must be typed and no longer than two, double-spaced pages or 650 words. All letter writers must include addresses and phone numbers with their letters. The phone numbers will not be published. The paper reserves the right to edit letters at its discretion. Reasons for editing include editing for length, clarity and style.

Letters should be received by the *Townsman* by Monday at 5 p.m. for consideration in that week's paper. They may be sent by mail, fax or e-mail. Letters sent by e-mail should be sent to Neil Fater at nfater@andovertownsmen.com, and included in the body of an e-mail, not as e-mail attachments.

As a general rule, the paper does not publish anonymous letters or thank-you letters.

It also does not publish letters for candidates in the issue prior to an election.

Andover Townsman

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COMING SOON: SEASON OF LIGHTS



Carol Derba strings lights in the window display of Regina Gifts on Main Street.

PHOTO BY TIM JEAN

LETTERS

Watch out, curbs

Editor, *Townsman*:

Curbstones beware. Bumpout Buzz [Stapczynski, the town manager] wants to raise taxes.

John D. Ramsdell
16 Burton Farm Drive

Youth support

Editor, *Townsman*:

I graduated from Andover High School in 2005 and am currently attending the University of Maryland in College Park, Maryland. After I left Andover, I realized what I had growing up there and the opportunities with which I was presented. However, I still know that the town is missing one major aspect: a youth center. I wish the youth center had existed when I was in Andover, just because I wanted a place where I could go and have fun or relax with my friends while meeting new people. Andover's youth comprises about 30 percent of the population, and they need somewhere to go.

As part of the Advocates for Children College Park Scholars Program at the University of Maryland, I discuss the issues facing children today and how to solve them. One of the solutions is giving children, no matter their age, a social network for support and growth through mentoring. Being in the Advocates program, I am able to connect with the area surrounding the university. For the past two semesters, I have been part of a tutoring program. Once a week, a group of university students meets with a group of elementary school students and spends time tutoring and being with them. This weekly program is one of the few opportunities these elementary school students have to interact with college students. It has become obvious to me that the children look forward to seeing their tutor every week. The relationship that the tutors have with the children involves much more than the tutor helping the child with homework; the elementary students use this as a time to have the college students listen to them. For the most part, the child really trusts the tutor and sees the tutor as a mentor.

Andover kids have so much more opportunity than those in College Park, and yet Andover kids have few places they can go to form friendships and meet mentors. The youth center will create that space where Andover adolescents, like the elementary school students of College Park, can interact with friends and new people in a social setting trying to help everyone achieve. I am asking everyone to continue their support for building a youth center for the many benefits it will provide to the youth of Andover.

Erica Ginsberg
Cherrywood Circle

Kerry apologized, now what about the president?

Editor, *Townsman*:

US Sen. John Kerry mis-spoke in a recent speech.

He offended many in the military and has apologized to our troops and to America.

When Sen. Kerry returned home from the Vietnam War he recognized the tragic consequences of the lies, blunders and lack of leadership that led the United States into that unnecessary war long ago. He was very angry and disappointed with his government, so he spoke out strongly against the war and was labeled unpatriotic.

When I was honorably discharged from the United States Air Force in 1972, I, like Kerry, was ashamed and disgusted with my government. Friends of mine from high school and college were dead as a result of the Vietnam War. I felt lucky and thankful to be alive.

No one ever apologized for the tragedy of Vietnam.

Today once again, I am appalled with my government

as we wage another tragic unnecessary war.

Kerry made a mistake in a political speech. He offended some people and apologized.

President George Bush and Vice President Dick Cheney made mistakes in misleading us into war and then made one colossal blunder after another in executing the war. Unlike Kerry, rather than apologize, the Bush administration continued its campaign of deception.

Like the Vietnam War, the consequences are severe: nearly 3,000 brave, patriotic Americans are dead; more than 20,000 more are wounded and maimed for life; hundreds of thousands of people, many innocent victims, are dead in Iraq. Human suffering will continue for generations, the United States is less safe, Iraq is less safe, the United States has been embarrassed, hatred for Americans has never been greater, and like in Vietnam, we cannot win the war in Iraq.

The cost in terms of taxpayer money spent for a war we didn't need to start is difficult to comprehend. I can't relate to \$300 billion. I can, however, appreciate \$1,000. That is the amount every man, woman and child in the United States has paid out so far. Imagine what could be done in Andover if every man, woman and child contributed \$1,000 to the town.

Bush could learn a lesson if he took a cue from Kerry by apologizing for the Bush administration's mistakes and dishonesty regarding the Iraq war. Our brave men and women who volunteer and serve in the United States military deserve much more than what they have been dealt by their commander in chief.

Thankfully, I believe the American people recognize the horrors of the Bush/Cheney era and they responded accordingly in last week's election.

Robert C. Rogers
22 Smithshire Estate

Local Red Cross seeks help after year of disasters

Editor, *Townsman*:

The American Red Cross of Merrimack Valley needs immediate financial support for the 18 Massachusetts and seven New Hampshire cities and towns in the Merrimack Valley that it serves. The New England floods in May where the chapter assisted more than 250 families was just the most recent disaster in a year of major disasters for the Merrimack Valley.

We have also shouldered the cost of two large fires, two record-breaking months of disaster with an incident every other day and assisted for three months supporting the national operation for Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma including the 70 families that were relocated to the Merrimack Valley. Our resources have been deeply depleted, and our financials for this past year show a significant deficit. We need to replenish the chapter funds as soon as possible so the next disaster doesn't catch us unprepared. We will experience another large disaster here – it's not a matter of "if," but "when" and "how big."

Part of our challenge is that most of our 650,000 Merrimack Valley constituents take us for granted. They think we're a government funded agency, but in fact we are non-governmental, not-for-profit and are primarily supported through donations from the public. The American people – you – are our No. 1 donor. Our ability to deliver a high quality, critical service is directly tied to our community financial support.

We are thankful for those in the community who have already given and without their past support we could not have responded as well as we did. We ask that those who have not given, give, and those who have given to see if there is room for another donation. We know people are going to get many solicitations from other organizations. We ask that they make the Red Cross one of their top five agencies to which they donate and contribute directly to chapter headquarters at 177 Ward Hill Avenue, Ward Hill, MA 01835.

Jay Foley, director of community development
American Red Cross of Merrimack Valley

THE THURSDAY FILE

The trouble with the world is that the stupid are cocksure and the intelligent full of doubt.

BERTRAND RUSSELL
(1872-1970)

Never offend people with style when you can offend them with substance.

SAM BROWN

Over the years, I've also learned that a very big part of leadership is learning to listen, to listen to ideas and the experiences that other people have. To listen to criticism. To listen to my own intuition. To trust the experience that I've been fortunate enough to get.

MOYA GREENE

One man working with you is worth a dozen men working for you.

HERMAN M. KOELLIKER

When we walk to the edge of all the light we have and take the step into the darkness of the unknown, we must believe that one of two things will happen. There will be something solid for us to stand on or we will be taught to fly.

PATRICK OVERTON

Before a marriage, a man will lie awake all night thinking about something you said; after marriage, he'll fall asleep before you finish saying it.

HELEN ROWLAND

Every beetle is a gazelle in the eyes of its mother.

MOORISH PROVERB

There are only two kinds of people who are really fascinating: people who know absolutely everything, and people who know absolutely nothing.

OSCAR WILDE

Best quotation sent

No matter how cynical you get, it is impossible to keep up.

LILY TOMLIN

About 'Thursday File'

This file can be found online, and contains quotations such as the ones on this page.

Informing or proselytizing: It depends

I know nothing about Wheels of Justice, and precious little more about the Anti-Defamation League. I do know something about political correctness and how its blind adoption is an insidious threat to the First Amendment, the cornerstone of our political and religious freedom.

If I were to run into a crowded room and loudly call a complete stranger a pedophile, the damage is done with the words. No judge or jury is necessary. Isn't the same kind of damage done by calling someone or some group anti-Semitic, without the *open* discussion of what they stand for?

I have two questions based upon reading the entire editorial and opinion page of the latest *Townsmen*. Could the Anti-Defamation League or its representatives have taught a better

civics lesson by offering to balance the ideas of Wheels of Justice by appearing with them in the planned forum, instead of censuring their ideas by helping to quell their invitation? If the Anti-Defamation League were invited and scheduled to speak to the tender sensibilities of the high school students, and Wheels of Justice objected, would Wheels of Justice objections have fallen on the equally sympathetic ears of the school administration?

As a postscript, I find bizarre and preposterous the position of one of your letter writers that Ron Francis, a physics teacher, should not have a political opinion, whether one agrees with it or not. There are no right opinions or wrong opinions, just opinions, hopefully unfettered.

Don Michelinie
1 County Road

Teacher has right to his opinions

One point remains to be made in the debate over Ron Francis. I reject the suggestion that it is inappropriate for a physics teacher to be involved in social issues simply because he teaches physics. As a presumably liberally educated citizen, a physics teacher should have informed opinions on social issues, and feel free to express them. A well educated history teacher, for instance, should be able to oppose a creationist teaching of biology for the same reason. Isn't this what we wish our students to be capable of?

Argue with Francis' opinions, by all means. But don't argue with his right to have them, or to fight for them, because he should confine himself to his subject.

Michael Kempster
132 Holt Road

Controversial issues should be confronted, discussed

Normally, I would not intervene with one of my father's professional issues, but having been referenced as "Richie Meyers, the son of (the) Andover Public Schools Union President,...(who) led a movement to change Andover High School's mascot" (*Letters, Townsman*, Nov. 9) seems to warrant a response. To the author of the letter, Joyce Danis, whose sons I attended school with, and whose son Eric is now finding his identity in Israel, there are a variety of issues to untangle and address that will not be so easily remedied in one letter. The barrage of letters, and the sound-byte culture we live in are sad testimony to America's inability to dig beneath the surface to uncover complicated issues.

I currently teach anthropology at Middlebury College in Vermont. My specialty is human identity, inclusive of such topics as ethnic identity and the politics of identity. My experience as a tribal member enrolled Oglala Lakota from the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, combined with my attendance in the Andover Public Schools, allowed me the privilege and access to knowledge not afforded most members of my tribe. The exposure I had as a result of my parents' diverse backgrounds led me into a career where I examine human behavior and organization and the reasons for gaps in understanding between people. I applaud Andover and educators like my father who are not afraid to present alternative views. Censorship and the McCarthy-era mentality, or pop movies like *Vendetta*, touch upon a scary phenomena that hopefully does not revisit this country. At one point, Crazy Horse, Geronimo, and most American Indians were considered terrorists. This always keeps my mind alert to seeking out the truth underneath patriotic rhetoric.

The usage of my situation regarding the mascot struggle was simplified, and did not address that from my sophomore year of high school through my second year while attending Amherst College, I continuously struggled to articulate an alternative perspective to the "sensitive" community. One would think a historical reality of unjust treatment

to a minority group would provide a model to see how power and social change work. Yet, from that experience I learned people do not often make the conscious connections to ideas without being confronted with difference. Often, good people end up doing bad things and do not even recognize why or how things actually happen. The paradigmatic occurs over and over in US history: from Vietnam's Mai Lai Massacre, to the Massacre at Wounded Knee, to the current abuses at Guantánamo. An education requires exposure to the ideas that confront difficult and often uncomfortable issues. All too often, we take a "hands-off" approach without taking into consideration the specific situation and context to a power imbalance.

The politics of a nation is not always representative of the identity of its indigenous people. So it is aptly demonstrated. "Who are you?" is a question associated with the racist ideology of the American Indians. Yet for the tribes of the Southwest, the witch hunt is a painful reminder of the suffering of their father and the loss of their culture. The book presents perspectives to achieve a more balanced view, reminds me of the rough time I spent in my adult life—having to interpose my own identity as a sensitive population with the dominant

[illegible]

Richard Meyers

Richard Meyers
Middlebury College, Middlebury, Vt.

Wheels of Justice is not the enemy; silencing speech is

The Wheels of Justice bus stopped in at North Andover High School about a year and a half ago, I guess, and three of the travelers spoke at North Andover High School. I remember it was at the invitation of a history teacher and it was supported by his department head. Then Superintendent Harutunian felt the need to have representation from "the other side," let's say, and help was sought, I believe, from the Anti-Defamation League. One of the three was an American Jewish folk singer, journalist and activist, Dave Lippman, who visited Israel and Palestinian lands. Another was a refugee from the Soviet Union, Vladimir Davidson, born into a Jewish family. The only one granted permission to speak was a Catholic worker, Michael Miles, who had risked going to jail for bringing in medical supplies for Iraqi children against the dictates of the ill-begotten embargo.

I cannot travel to these places and talk with their people. I depend on reliable investigators to do this and I try to learn from them. I think three clergy were present for the classroom discussion. No violence was committed in word or deed and the visiting speakers seemed to appreciate any response they received from the students. Mostly what impressed me was how unreactive the students were. I think students in general these days are apathetic, numbed by media racket and sorely knowledge deprived. And for some reason it seems that something spirited gets learned out of them. I don't know why.

But in a world where terrorists can hideously bomb at will, and when sovereign democratic states such as Israel (in Lebanon) and the United States (in Afghanistan) can indiscriminately bomb civilian areas with barbaric cluster bombs, engaging in a spirited discussion seems just what is called for. We

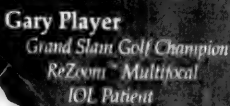
live in a culture of denial and narrow fear-based allegiances. We have to come to terms with the hatred and prejudice that exist in our own country and promote as wide and deep a dialogue as possible if America is to be a true world leader.

The Wheels of Justice bus tour is not the enemy. Silencing free speech certainly is. Whether you think of me and my colleagues, and our chosen faith, I cannot think of a single Unitarian-Universalist minister who would have supported shutting out the Wheels of Justice speakers. The reason is simply this: Some of what we need to listen to is what is most difficult to hear, but only if all the facts are presented can we make the wisest decisions. Please, let's keep talking, and hearing each other.

Rev. Ralph Galen
41 Lowell St.

The writer is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover.

The writer is the minister of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover.



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School leaders seek critiques from parents, teachers

By Brian Messenger

Parents of Andover public school students shared a variety of concerns Tuesday night at an open forum organized by the School Committee, echoing many of the concerns voiced by teachers in previous meetings with the schools superintendent.

To open the meeting, committee Chairman Tony James, outlined major budget considerations going into the 2007-08 school year, the second year of five year plan to rebuild the system.

Superintendent Claudia Bach, who this fall has already conducted discussions about the budget with faculty members in

nine of Andover's 10 schools, said she had been asking small groups of teachers to create collective lists of perceived needs. The teachers were then asked to cut their lists in half.

At the elementary level, that short list included bringing back physical education teachers and assistant principals and restoring the supply budget to 2002 levels, before major cuts were made.

The list of priorities for middle schools included adding guidance counselors, expand the engineering program, bringing back the late bus for students staying after school, and restoring media specialists and technology and music teachers.

At Andover High School, the short list included an Alternative Education Program, bringing back the late bus, reducing class size and adding guidance counselors.

"It was fairly appalling how little guidance there was [at the middle school level]," agreed parent Mike Vogler, whose two daughters now attend Andover High. Vogler said better counseling at the middle school level will prevent future issues from developing with students.

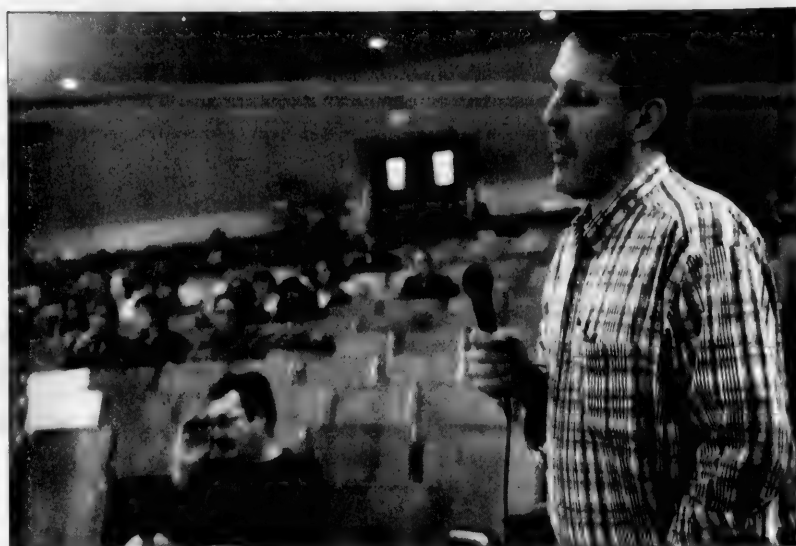
Andrea Stinson, the parent of an AHS freshman, also wants to reestablish the late bus at the high school level. She said that while classes end at 2:05 p.m., her daughter's bus leaves at 2:10.

"Allow kids the time to actually get the help after school," Stinson said. "It's so important for these kids."

Overcrowding at the high school was a topic of discussion, as Bob Willard brought up "the enormous risk that we're going to have to build another high school."

Willard said that if middle schoolers considered Andover high schools like Greater Lawrence Technical School and Phillips Academy, and schools in surrounding communities, it would help to quell issues with budgeting and overcrowding.

"I don't think we have done a particularly good job of presenting the other schools as options,"



Michael Vogler, who would like to see more guidance counselors in the schools, said "it was fairly appalling how little guidance there was" when his kids were in middle school.



School Committee Chairman Anthony James discusses the budget during an open forum held at West Middle School.

he said.

Several parents also voiced their unhappiness with changes to the middle school math curriculum three years ago, which eliminated separate advanced math classes.

One parent even asked for a forum in the future where both School Committee members and concerned parents can reevaluate curriculum decisions.

Several other parents wished that teachers would increase

their use of the Edline program, which acts as an online forum connecting teachers and parents.

"We've been frustrated about how teachers are buying into it," said Diane Costagliola, president of the high school's Parent Advisory Council. "We see it as a great tool for parents and a great tool for teachers."

"It's very frustrating," agreed Albert Robbat, who has three children as Andover students. "Some teachers are really good

at it and some teachers are really bad at it."

Before the floor was opened to parents' comments, James cited health insurance, pension, energy and personnel costs, and special education funding as reasons for a projected \$1 million deficit going into the early stages of the budgeting process.

"We want people to understand that this is a tough year," James said. "It's tough to do business as usual."

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Townspeople

Special Olympian

Denise Carriere is named to the board of Special Olympics

By George A. Martin

DENISE CARRIERE has won many awards competing as an athlete in the Massachusetts Special Olympics. Now, she has assumed the responsibility of membership on the board of directors.

Carriere, a 32-year-old Andover native, has been involved in the Massachusetts Special Olympics since she was 8. She has won more than 100 medals, mostly gold and mostly for swimming.

"Denise was won of our best athletes, and she was an excellent role model for our younger kids. As I recall, her best sports were swimming and basketball," said Daryl Arsenault, co-coach of the Massachusetts Special Olympics Andover team in the mid-1980s.

Marilyn Carriere, Denise's mother, said that the encouragement of co-coaches David Nichols and Arsenault spurred her daughter's determination to excel, and that enabled her to accomplish much in her life.

As an infant, Denise Carriere was diagnosed with meningitis and the medical prognosis given to her family was that she would live only six months.

Today, she maintains an independent lifestyle.

living in her own apartment and working part-time as an aide at Memorial Hall Library. Florence Feldman-Wood, one of Carriere's co-workers, was effusive with her praise.

"She works very hard, five mornings every week, and is very reliable and dependable. Her positive attitude is wonderful, and each new task is accepted with enthusiasm," she said.

"Denise has been designated as a global messenger, and she has spoken at many functions to encourage people with various disabilities to persevere and to not allow their handicaps to impede their progress," said Marilyn Carriere.

She recently spoke in front of 4,000 people for the American Teachers Federation, a function at which Boston mayor Thomas Menino also spoke. She will also address a group of people at the Omni Parker House in Boston on Friday evening.



Denise Carriere, shown before being inducted into the Special Olympics Hall of Fame in April 2004, has been named to the Special Olympics Massachusetts board of directors.

As a global messenger, her mission is to deliver an eloquent and compassionate message that will serve as an inspiration to many people with disabilities.

Carriere said she gets the most enjoyment from her involvement with the Massachusetts Special Olympics by "speaking and getting my message out." She also enjoys listening to the "wide range of music" at these events.

She trains for each event using precise methods. Recently, she competed in a soccer tournament at Governor's Academy (formerly Governor Dummer Academy) in Byfield Preparatory.

She was the only young woman on the team, and her team won the gold medal. Every year from January to June, she swims at the local YMCA on Sundays for one hour.

One of Carriere's favorite memories was several years ago when her brother, David, then a police academy cadet, led a torch

parade of cadets into the field during the opening ceremonies for the Summer Special Olympics Games. Denise and Marilyn are also proud of Denise's younger sister Beth, a medic in the Air National Guard who has just returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.

Beth Carriere is a member of Blackhawk Unit Co. 26, which is based in Bellingham, N.H. She is a graduate of Norwich University.

Denise Carriere has made her sister a participant and a supporter of the Special Olympics. Carriere's mother, Marilyn, has been a participant in the program since 1980.

Carriere participates in several competitions besides swimming and soccer, including volleyball, track and field, and basketball.

Events in Connecticut are not separate by gender, and she won a 50-meter freestyle race against female and finished second.

Earlier this year, the Boston Globe and the Massachusetts State Lottery called Carriere for her accomplishments. She was named one of the Heroes Among Us. The Globe last year named her one of the state's most outstanding individuals who have made exceptional and lasting contributions to their communities.

Denise was chosen to serve as a member of the Special Olympics Massachusetts board of directors because of her maturity, her poise and her extensive knowledge of the program. As such, it is important that every deliberation that the board makes include the opinion and ultimately the vote of a consumer, an athlete. Denise will be the representative for our athletes," said Bob Johnson, the organization's president.

Denise said her duties will entail representing athletes in Massachusetts, providing input on how events are run, what types of events are available, and how to better all of them.

"I would like to see the Special Olympics program and to see how it helps people," she said. "I don't know what the Special Olympics Massachusetts is all about."

Her brother, David, is a police academy cadet, led a torch

parade of cadets into the field during the opening ceremonies for the Summer Special Olympics Games. Denise and Marilyn are also proud of Denise's younger sister Beth, a medic in the Air National Guard who has just returned from a tour of duty in Iraq.



Anna Gikow, 18, a second-degree black belt, received a scholarship for tae kwon do. She attends the University of New Hampshire.

She's all about business of focusing on her goals

By Michelle Wiener
What's Up contributor

You've heard of academic scholarships. You've heard of football scholarships.

Andover High School graduate Anna Gikow, of 41 Sagamore Drive, received a college scholarship for tae kwon do.

Gikow won an American Tae Kwon Do Association, Eternal Grandmaster H.U. Lee Regional Scholarship to attend the University of New Hampshire. The award was based upon high school merit and leadership ability.

"My mom encouraged me to start it [tae kwon do] because of my confidence," Gikow said. "And that's definitely something that's kept increasing over the years. My instructor was a big part of that."

Gikow has been studying tae kwon do for more than eight years at the ATA Black Belt Academy in Andover. Her accomplishments include being a second-degree black belt, winning an award a few years ago for exceptional leadership for children, and becoming the Massachusetts Songahm Tae Kwon Do State Champion for tae kwon do forms, weapons and sparring.

Tae kwon do "just changed me so much," she said, later adding that there are "so many life skills they teach you."

Gikow is now an Instructor trainee at the academy in Andover, where, before going to college, she taught a variety of people, from students as young as 3½ to adults in their 60s. Although she is currently taking a break from tae kwon do classes and teaching to be a student, she is still competing and watching the kids she taught improve in rank.

Gikow is currently a freshman in the Whittemore School of Business and Economics at UNH.

"I love it here," she says. "It's perfect for me."

TOWN TALK

'Taste of Italy' benefits Alex's Team

Alex's Team Foundation and Gruppo Ristoratori Italiani present "A Taste of Italy," a fund-raising benefit, tonight, Thursday, Nov. 16 from 6:30 to 10 at Filippo Ristorante, 283 Causeway St., in Boston's North End. The donation, \$100 per person, includes the meal and wine.

According to organizers of the event, "renowned culinary artists are donating their time, talent, and exquisite cuisine for the night." It is designed as "an evening in the company of master chefs from leading Italian restaurants across the United States. Enjoy generous offering of wines and epicurean delights while helping the fight against childhood cancers." Tickets may be purchased through at www.alexsteamfoundation.com.

The proceeds from this event will benefit Alex's Team Foundation pediatric cancer research and clinical nursing programs at Children's Hospital Boston, the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, and Harvard Medical School, as well as the GRI "Giacomo Bologna Scholarship" for culinary studies in Italy.

The foundation was established in 2002 in memory of Alexandra Jane Miliotis, daughter of Mark and Patti Miliotis. Alex, an artist and three-sport athlete at Andover High School, succumbed to leukemia at 16.

Harvard Club branch sets calendar

The Harvard Club of Andover will hold an organizational meeting Tuesday, Nov. 28 at 6:30 p.m. in the Andover Room at the Wyndham Andover Hotel. The HCA will incorporate as a non-profit corporation and plan events for the coming year, including speakers, raising funds for scholarships and attending events.

Graduates and family members of Harvard College, Harvard graduate schools, and the Harvard Extension School from Andover and surrounding towns may join. Parents of students and graduates are also welcome. For more information, contact Lawrence B. Morse, HCA president, at 978-475-9682, or for interviewing prospective students, Rick Barger at 978-689-9850.

Spirit of Giving Gala boosts Ironstone Farm

Challenge Unlimited at Ironstone Farm hosted its fourth annual Spirit of Giving Gala on Saturday, Nov. 4 at Andover Country Club. Before a record crowd of 450 guests, the non-profit therapeutic riding program paid tribute to three honorees who exemplify the values of the organization — Doug and Laurie Flutie and family, former Andover resident and long time Ironstone volunteer Frank Forlizzi, and Drew and Joann Weber, owners of the Lowell Spinners baseball team.

Guest emcee for the evening was Fox 25 Sportscaster Butch Stearns, who was accompanied by Channel 5 reporter Susan Wornick as guest auctioneer.

The Ironstone Spirit of Giving Event was started as a tribute to the Richard and Katie Donovan family, who built and nurtured Ironstone for 40 years before making it possible for the non-profit Challenge Unlimited to purchase it in 2001. Check out www.challengeunlimited.org.

Deedee O'Brien, Challenge Unlimited executive director, introduces Laurie Flutie.



From left, event chairman David Pierre of Andover, Butch Stearns of Fox 25 Sports, and Susan Wornick of Channel 5 News, begin the live auction.



SOCIAL NOTEBOOK

There will be a Thanksgiving service on Thursday, Nov. 23 at 10:30 a.m. at **First Church of Christ, Scientist**, 278 North Main St.

The service includes readings for the occasion, and an opportunity for those attending to express their thoughts and gratitude. All are welcome.

Call 978-475-3213 for more information.

"Five Wishes," a simple program to help consumers and their loved ones deal with serious illness, will be presented at 7:30 p.m. tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 17 with **Dr. Deborah Turiano**, medical director of Sea-

coast Hospice.

The free program, which is open to the public, will be hosted by the **Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover**, 6 Locke St.

There will be a 25-minute video and a discussion led by Dr. Turiano. For seven years Dr. Turiano was affiliated with the **Merrimack Valley Hospice**, with four of those years as its medical director.

Participants are encouraged to bring home and complete the Five Wishes document. This helps one express how they want to be treated if they are seriously ill and unable to speak for themselves. It is unique

among other living will and health agent forms because it is designed to address all of a person's needs: medical, personal, emotional and spiritual. Five Wishes also encourages discussing one's wishes with family and their physician.

Five Wishes was created by the non-profit **Aging with Dignity** to provide people with the practical information, advice and legal tools they need to ensure their wishes and those of their loved ones will be respected. "By helping improve an individual's quality of care, we can bring about dramatic change, one person at a time," organizers said.

Six million individuals have reportedly completed Five Wishes and 10,000 organizations have supported it. The endorsements are wide ranging, organizers said.

UUCIA hopes to repeat this program during the year to reach as wide an audience as possible.

Call 978-475-4454 or check out www.uuandover.org for more information or to learn of future programs.

The **Mother Connection** will hold its annual Shopping Night from 6:30 to 9:30 Thursday, Nov. 30 at the historic **Stevens Estate**, 723 Osgood St., North Andover.

The Mother Connection Shopping Night will offer guests an evening of shopping with an array of handmade gifts, unique jewelry, clothing and accessories, fragrances, gourmet foods and more from more than 25 vendors.

The proceeds from this special evening of shopping and socializing will help benefit the Mother Connection, a non-profit organization for area mothers and families.

Founded more than 20 years ago by a group of women who recognized the need for support, resources and parenting information for mothers and their young children, the Mother Connection today has more 1,000 members and supports many charitable organizations, organizers said.

For more information on Shopping Night contact the Mother Connection via e-mail at shopping@themothersonnection.org, or visit the Web site at www.themothersonnection.org.

FOR SENIORS

By Pat Becker

Andover Senior Center

Here are some of the activities coming up at the Andover Senior Center.

Fix-It Shop: Our fix-it shop will be open for business from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Monday, Nov. 20. Our volunteers will be happy to take a look at any small appliances or household items. Cost is \$2 plus any parts that might be needed to complete a repair.

Men's Breakfast: "From Giza To Abu Simbel: An Armchair Tour of Ancient Egypt." Visit 2,500 years of ancient Egyptian history, buildings and culture in this presentation by Greg Trerotola on Friday, Nov. 17 at 8:30 a.m. Advance reservations are necessary by calling the center at 978-623-8321.

Movie Matinee: On Monday, Nov. 20 at 1 p.m. we will show the video, *The Lake House* starring Sandra Bullock and Keanu Reeves. Reservations are not necessary, just come by and join us.

Flu Shots: Flu shots for Andover residents will be given out on the following schedule: Monday, Nov. 27 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the senior center; and Thursday, Nov. 30 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Town Offices, second floor. Contact the board of health at 978-623-8295.

Radio City Christmas Show: The famous Radio City Rockettes return to the Wang Center this year for their spectacular holiday show. We have excellent center floor seats for their 2 p.m. matinee on Tuesday, Dec. 19 performance. Cost of the trip is \$75, which includes ticket and transportation from the center.

Exercise Registration: Registration for the winter semester of exercise classes will take place the week of Nov. 20. Classes will be offered in women's strength training, cardio conditioning, tai chi, low-impact aerobics, water workout, men's fitness, basic and performing tap dance classes, and modified yoga. Class and fee schedules are available at the center. The winter semester will run from Dec. 4 through Feb. 23.

Holiday Fair and Bake Sale: The center will hold its annual holiday fair and bake sale on Friday, Dec. 8 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. The fair will offer a wide selection of seasonal decorations, holiday plants and arrangements, Christmas crafts, gift items and a great bake table. Come on by and do some of your holiday shopping.

Evergreen Workshop: Tuesday, Dec. 12; 1:30 p.m.; \$15 (includes instruction and all supplies). Under the watchful eye of some Village Garden Club members, participants will create a wonderful evergreen window hanging. Pre-registration is necessary so we can purchase the appropriate amount of supplies. Bring some small clippers or a pair of scissors.

North Pole Calling: We're

looking for a few good people Tuesday, Dec. 12 and Wednesday, Dec. 13; 5 to 7 p.m. to help call children for a holiday chat. Imagine their surprise to hear that Santa is calling them from the North Pole to talk with them. We're looking for some women to be Mrs. Claus as well. Volunteers can choose to work one night or two, and a light supper will be provided. Anyone who is interested in helping out can contact Pat Becker at the senior center.

"Healthy Holiday Recipes": Wednesday, Dec. 6 and Wednesday, Dec. 13; 1:30 p.m. In this two-session class we'll learn easy ways to prepare healthy, holiday recipes. Please note that this is not a cooking class, but samples will be available for taste testing. Instructor will be Betsey Beaven, a professional chef for 13 years. Beaven is also the co-author of four vegetarian cookbooks and has made TV and radio appearances, discussing the health benefits and joy of cooking seasonal food.

Immigrant Heritage Documentary: Tuesday, Dec. 5; 1 p.m.; no charge. Join us for this wonderful documentary film featuring eight remarkable citizens from Andover and the Merrimack Valley who overcame enormous challenges to come to America, and whose heritage has significantly enriched our community and our country.

Creative Cooking/Lunch Group: Wednesday, Dec. 20; 11 a.m. Have the fun of restaurant-style eating right at the senior center. This lively, food-loving group welcomes newcomers to join in the fun of a cooking demo, recipe sharing and lunch together. The December class will feature our annual Italian Christmas specialties. Cost is \$6 and advance reservations are necessary.

Andover Chamber Music Series: Sunday, Dec. 10; 3 p.m. at South Church. Ticket price is \$20, which is a \$10 savings if purchased through the senior center. This annual concert has become one of the most festive ways to usher in the holidays in the Merrimack Valley. This will be an all-Bach program featuring *The Brandenburg Concertos*.

Men's Breakfast: Friday, Dec. 8 at 8:30 a.m.; \$3; advance reservations necessary. Bring the ladies and come enjoy our traditional holiday breakfast. We'll be celebrating the sounds of the season with our own Sunrise Singers for entertainment. A special treat will be instrumental pieces by Sasha Brower, a sixth-grade cellist. Make your reservations early as this event is usually a sell-out.

Gift Certificates: Senior center gift certificates can make a great gift or stocking stuffer for that hard to shop for person on your holiday list. Certificates are available in all denominations, and are good for any program, class, activity or trip sponsored by the center for the upcoming year.



Just in time for the holidays, the **Sts. Constantine & Helen Philotochos "Myrofori"** of Andover has published a new holiday cookbook, *Comfort and Joy*. It features 350 favorite recipes for Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter. From savory beef tenderloin to moist and delicious egg-nog bundt cake, this holiday cookbook is not the typical church cookbook. There are some traditional Greek favorites and more recipes to add to the holiday table. Along with chairwoman Carol Christakos and co-chairwoman Mary Kotsios, the committee consisted of Georgia Contos, Elaine Kevgas and Irene Rooks. They collected recipes from church women, then proofread and organized the recipes. The result is a diverse collection of recipes for everyone to enjoy, they said. The proceeds of the cookbook will go toward the philanthropic endeavors of the Philotochos group. To purchase a cookbook, contact the church office at 978-470-0919 during the hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday. The cost per cookbook is \$15 and they are reportedly selling quickly. Above, from left, are Gail Constantine, Carol Christakos, Irene Rooks, president Stephanie Connor, and Mary Kotsios.

AHS REUNIONS

AHS class of 1986 plans 20th reunion

The Andover High School class of 1986 is holding its 20th reunion on Friday, Nov. 24 beginning at 7 p.m. The event will be held at the Wyndham Hotel on River Road in Andover. For more information, contact Lori Becker at lbecker21@aol.com.

Organizers are also trying to find the following people, and would appreciate any information on how to reach them: Jackie Abercrombie, Samantha Allison, Dave Anderson, Sandy Annanian, Stephanie Antriasian, Doug Bailey, Allison Bainbridge, Mike Basile, John Beardsley, Karin Beitler, Debbie Benanchietti, Jill Bennett, Bob Bolton, Mike Bouch, Jodie Boudreau, Andy Bourassa, Mike Burke, Bruce Camire, Melinda Caplan, Rubina Carver, Jeff Chiang, Merrilee Clark, Chris Collins, Michelle Conron, Mark Constance, Carlyn Cronin, Warren Crossfield, Darrin Currier, Evan Darling, Christine DeMoulas, Vince Distefano, Mark Doherty, Steve Donahue, Dan Donahue, Olaf Dorffer, Amy Driscoll, Linda Farr, Eric Friedenson, Kerri Friel, Lisa Froburg, John Garabedian, Maggie Garcia, Christine Gargalowitz, Ron Geis, Laura Gleason, Sandy Goldwasser, Karen Grace, Ron Granger, Shweta Gupta, Laura Hayes, Russ Henderson, Rob Hendry, Ann Marie Hewitt, Bonnie Hodes, Mike Hogg, Becky Hunter, Sean Hurley, John Hurtado, Mike Jackson, Scott Jangro, Jennifer Johnson, Melissa Johnson, Susan Kachen, Sharon Kaplan, Scott Kelly, Tad Kitowitz, Bill Kleschinsky, Dana Lally, Kim Lambert, Lilly Loring, Cindy Martin, Scott McAllister, Tony McCarty DeRivi, Denise McKeown, Bonnie McLellan, Michelle Melanson, Karin Messler, Stephanie Mitchell, Gregg Morada, Dawn O'Brien, Kim Orbe, Jun Sung Paek, Larry Papadopoulos, Mark Polakow, Maura Powers, Larry Prestia, Ray Reed, Katey Regan, Julie Robbins, Nancy Rogers, Mark Sacco, Katie Sheehan, Phyllis Sheriff, Bob Smith, Melissa Sobil, Paul St. Hilaire, John Stephens, Karen Ster-

ling, John Sullivan, Bonnie Taylor, John Tomlinson, Barry Tucker, Jenn Ward, Frank Warren and Scott White.

AHS class of 1996 announces its 10th reunion

Andover High School class of 1996 is holding its 10th class reunion at Indian Ridge Country Club, Lovejoy Road, also on Friday, Nov. 24 beginning at 7 p.m. The cost is \$50 per person. Make checks payable to: Andover High School class of 1996, care of Shannon Lee Witman, 9 Center St., Andover, 01810.

For more information, the contacts are Shannon Witman (sewitman@hotmail.com) and Shira Hermosa (shirahermosa@yahoo.com).

AHS class of 1981 sets 25th reunion

Andover High School class of 1981 is also holding its 25th class reunion Friday, Nov. 24 from 7 p.m. to midnight, at Andover Country Club. For more details, e-mail class president Jim Dowe at jdowe@ghi.net.

AHS class of 2001 plans its 5th reunion

The fifth year reunion for the Andover High School class of 2001 will be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall at 505 Sutton St., North Andover (behind the China Blossom restaurant), on Saturday, Nov. 25 from 8 p.m. until midnight.

The cost is \$10. Send an e-mail to Matt Newcomb, class treasurer, at avagonmusic@hotmail.com by Nov. 20 to reserve a seat. Music and dancing will be on the program; and food will be provided. Payment can be sent to: 2001 Andover High Reunion c/o Matt Newcomb, 7 Punchard Ave., Andover, 01810; or pay at the door.

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Business

BRIEFS

Holiday parade sponsors

The annual Andover Firefighters Holiday Parade, including a visit from Santa Claus on the back of a fire truck is less than two weeks away. The parade is scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 26, with a rain or snow date of Dec. 3. The parade will begin at 1 p.m.

The fire department listed the following businesses and organization as sponsors: Andover Firefighters Relief Association, Andover Townsman, Eagle Tribune, Andover Country Club, Raytheon, Eisai Research Institute, the Savings Bank, JW Watson, Sovereign Bank, Andover Family Dentistry, Andover Liquors, Brockway-Smith, California Products, Closet Classics, Doherty Insurance, Doyle Lumber, Dynasty International Inc., Holt & Bugbee, Howe Insurance, Main Street Mobil, Ozzy Properties, Park Street Pub, Shawshen Rubber, Vicor, Daher's Shoes, Kevin T. Bagnall DDS, Royal Jewelers, Dr. James A Casazza, Harkins Real Estate, Learning Express, Sarkisian Driving Range, Arthur A. Daniels DDS, Smith & Nephew and Strawberry Tree.

RBC Dain Rauscher gives grant, time to local YMCA

Anthony Giordano, vice president and on-site manager of RBC Dain Rauscher's office in Andover, recently invited students from the YMCA's Junior and Teen Achievers Program to visit him at his Andover office. He spent time explaining to the students how the stock market works.

In the photo below, Giordano works with (from left) Lawrence YMCA Teen Achievers Gina Santana, Lawrence High School 10th-grade student; Johelly Hernandez, Greater Lawrence Technical School 11th-grade student; Baldwin Alba, Lawrence High School, 11th-grade student; and Edward Vasquez, Lawrence High School 11th-grade student.

The RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation also provided the Merrimack Valley YMCA's Lawrence Branch with a \$5,000 grant to help sustain its Junior and Teen Achievers Program. This youth development program is targeted to teens, age 11 to 13, and focuses on career development, academic achievement, leadership development, and social development.

"The YMCA's Junior and Teen Achiever Program is a great fit for RBC Dain Rauscher Foundation's commitment to programs that support culturally diverse community initiatives that foster economic independence, promote self-sufficiency and strengthen families. Over the years I have seen first hand the great work of the Lawrence YMCA and can clearly appreciate the many benefits the YMCA provides to inner-city youth," said Giordano in a release.



Tocco given highest honor by Children's Trust Fund

President and Chief Executive Officer of ML Strategies, Stephen P. Tocco received the Children's Trust Fund's highest honor earlier this fall as the honoree of its 16th Annual Gala & Auction. Senate President Robert Travaglini served as the gala's master of ceremonies.

The Massachusetts Children's Trust Fund leads statewide efforts to support parents and strengthen families by funding, evaluating and promoting childcare programs offered by more than 100 Massachusetts agencies who partner with CTF in its mission to prevent child abuse and neglect.

As the Chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, Tocco was honored for his ongoing commitment to the children and families of Massachusetts.

GET A BEAD ON THIS

Resident turns hobby into downtown jewelry business, showcase

By April A. Guilmet

When Carla Byrne attended high school in Lawrence, art and design classes weren't part of the landscape.

"I was very interested in art, and beading was a great creative outlet for me," Byrne said. "That's why I developed it in college."

After earning an education degree with a minor in art, Byrne pursued a career in teaching. She taught kindergarten and first grade at a private school in Tewksbury. For the past four years, she worked with third-graders at South Elementary School.

On Nov. 11, Byrne's jewelry and beading store, Bella Beads Boutique, opened its doors in Olde Andover Village, off Main Street. For Byrne, it was an ideal way to combine her two passions, teaching and the creative arts.

"I'd been doing this jewelry business on the side since 2003 going to different craft shows and making jewelry out of my home as a hobby. This hobby of mine became a store," Byrne said.

One of the few stores of its kind in the Merrimack Valley, Bella Beads Boutique offers beads from around the world, as well as finished pieces, consignment items made by other jewelry designers and jewelry repair. Many of her unusual beads are found during regular visits to trade shows in New York City, she said.

She also plans to offer beading workshops for adults and teens this winter.

"I consider the workshops to be simply a different kind of teaching. But instead of books, I'll use beads," Byrne said.

Unique to Bella Beads is its vintage redesign services, Byrne said.

"A lot of people come to me with beautiful old jewelry that belonged to a relative, but it's just not in style any more," she said. "I'll sketch out a new design for them and show them some new color schemes." Sometimes, she added, a necklace can be reconfigured into a bracelet and earrings, for example.

Byrne also offers customized jewelry for weddings and proms.

"Customers can bring in swatches and I'll make something up to match their dresses," she said.

Byrne also said she hasn't forgotten what it's like to be a teenager lacking options for creative expression. That's one of the reasons she is offering the "Teen



Carla Byrne opened her new shop Bella Beads Boutique this past weekend. She plans to offer some space for one teen each month to show what he or she has designed.

Trunk Show," an opportunity for local teenage designers to display their wares in the boutique. She plans to choose one young designer each month.

"I thought it would be neat to give the kids their own space in my store," Byrne said. "It's a nice way to encourage young people to get going with their designing. It's not always about having book smarts."

A member of the Andover Society for the past six years, Byrne said fundraising and giving back to the community are important to her. Working for groups like Andover and other towns such as A Better Chance and the Lawrence Public School system — she's donated many jewelry sets for local fundraisers as well as more than 25 percent of profits earned

through her beading business.

Lawrence is close to her heart. I grew up there. Plus, going back to the community is a good responsibility for business owners. It's very important," Byrne said.

Bella Beads Boutique is at 44 Main St. in Olde Andover Village, off Main Street. Hours: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday.

Rail company drops lawsuit, will reduce fumes

By Colin Steele

Guilford Rail Systems dropped a lawsuit against the town and has agreed to equip its trains with devices to reduce noise and noxious fumes while they are idling.

The move ends a long dispute that escalated last year, when the town's Board of Health cited the railroad operator for leaving its trains parked with their engines running for too long. Guilford Rail Systems sued the town in response, saying the citation and accompanying cease-and-desist order violated its right to conduct interstate commerce.

But instead of taking the town to court, Guilford has now decided to install the anti-

pollution devices on its locomotives, Public Health Director Thomas Carbone said. For now, trains will still idle, but within five years they will all be equipped with generators that shut down idling engines after 30 minutes but still keep the engines warm.

The Board of Health had worked with Guilford Rail Systems since April to resolve the dispute, according to minutes of closed-door board meetings released this month.

Residents along the railroad tracks between York Street and Fleming Avenue have long complained about trains that idle on a side track there for up to 36 hours at a time. The noise and diesel fumes threaten while idling

are a public health concern, Carbone said.

In the past, Guilford's trains have idled for hours, even days, at the end of the line. The trains can be idled for hours and idling for long periods of time. The side track is a densely populated area, with a mix of residential and commercial buildings, including the Reading Railroad Station.

The town had threatened to sue Guilford Rail Systems if it did not agree to equip its trains with anti-idling devices. When the track is closed, the trains are idling for hours. The Andover Board of Health has been fighting Guilford Rail Systems since the town sued the railroad in April.

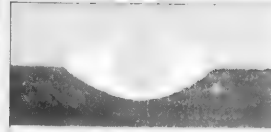
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Sports

AHS ROUNDUP

Fall season coming down to the wire

Girls volleyball, swim & dive teams capture 2006 MIAA North Sectional titles

By Rick Harrison

The Andover High girls volleyball and girls swim & dive teams nailed down 2006 MIAA North Sectional titles on the same day, reinforcing their dominance while competing around 10 hours and 300 miles apart in Lowell and Cambridge respectively.

The volleyballers blew bowed out of the State Tournament Tuesday night with a 3-1 semifinal round loss to Newton North.

GIRLS SWIM & DIVE

Andover made a stab at what was projected to be a down-to-the-wire three-team fight, beating second-place Acton-Boxboro by 119.5 points, and third-place Chelmsford by 128.

With Tiffany Petzold cementing a double individual winner, and methuen's victorious relay, the Lady Warriors splashed to an unprecedented eighth straight MIAA North Sectional Championship at Harvard University's Blodgett Pool in Cambridge.

The season's final meets placed first in the opening events of the day, which included the diving and were top touchers in six of the 24 events overall as they once again made it look much easier than it should be.

Seventeen swimmers and divers figured in the scoring as AHS piled up 320 points to best 119 school field.

A B had 210.5, Chelmsford 192, Reading 158 and Methuen 79. Rounding out the top 10 were Haverhill 73, Winchester 70, Cambridge Rindge & Latin 57, Belmont 53 and Lexington 44.

"We were all shocked that it wasn't even close," said Petzold. "Everybody swam so well for us. There were so many personal bests."

"We seem to swim better under pressure. The more pressure the better we perform," said Petzold.

The scoring system in dual-team meets awards 16 points for first place in individual events, 13 for second, and then 12, 11, 10, 9, 7, 5, 4, 3, 2, and 1 for the other 10 places. The points are doubled (32, 26, etc.) for the three relays.

This Sectional accomplishment comes after the seven-time reigning State Meet champions finished 12-0 overall, including 8-0 in MVC dual meets to stretch the seemingly-invincible locals unprecedented win streak through 96 consecutive dual meets, and won a seventh straight MVC Championship Meet crown.

Schedule

The season-ending 2006 All-State Division I Meet is this Sunday at MIT in Cambridge (8:45 a.m.)

MIAA North Sectional Championship Meet

Staking her claim as the top individual swimmer in the state this fall, versatile senior multi-talent Tiffany Petzold played a part in 96 of the AHS points.

In the 200-yard IM, she bettered her seed time by almost three seconds and beat runner-up Jenn Trodden of Reading by more than five seconds with a 2:09.64 clocking. Petzold's 50 splits in the four-stroke event were 28.81, 32.48, 38.27 and 30.08.

"I was surprised to win by so much," said Petzold, who hopes to attend either defending NCAA Division 3 women's national swim champ Emory University in Atlanta, Ga., or the University of Miami next fall. "I was seeded first by 2 seconds but didn't expect to win by five."

Four events later Petzold completed her double with a 53.92 performance in the 100 free. That was a shade more than two seconds off the ancient meet record set 21 years ago (1985) by Jenny Norton of Acton-Boxboro.

Junior Kristi Korsberg continued her spectacular stroking with first- and third-place finishes.

Seeded No. 3 in the 200 free, Korsberg shattered her seed time by more than six seconds and left top seed/favorite Katelyn Martin of Chelmsford gasping for air with a 1:52.90 effort that was almost four seconds faster than Martin's 1:56.55.

Leading wire-to-wire, Korsberg also seri-

ously challenged the meet record of 1:51.82 established in 2001 by AHS High School All-American Connie Brown.

Midway through the meet Korsberg contributed a third in the 100 butterfly, her crisp 1:00.07 trailing only Methuen double winner Laura Moriarty (57.01) and Chelmsford's Amanda Cecere (59.21).

Korsberg and Petzold again swam the third and fourth legs for the first-place 200 medley and 400 free 'A' relays - the races that open and close the meet.

Senior Erin McAuliffe was first off the blocks in the 200 medley and gave the locals a slim lead, which they never relinquished, and junior Melissa Alois maintained a whisper-thin edge over eventual fifth-place finisher Reading before turning the race over to Korsberg and Petzold who methodically widened the gap.

Andover finished in 1:53.54 to beat runner-up Acton-Boxboro by almost three seconds (1:56.45).

The Lady Warriors nipped Chelmsford by a split-second in the 400 free relay, avenging strategic losses to the Lions in their dual meet and the MVC title meet the previous two weeks.

With this meet well in hand the Lady Warriors didn't have to be cautious off the blocks, and the foursome of freshman Brittany Ross, senior Kerry Gaj, Korsberg and Petzold eclipsed their No. 2 seed time by almost four seconds.

Petzold's hand kissed the wall to cap a 3:40.53 effort, while CHS anchor Katelyn Martin swam almost a dead heat with Petzold but couldn't make up the deficit as the Lions were second in 3:40.99.

Divers shine

AHS sophomore Katie O'Connell led the one-meter diving competition from prelims through finals, chalking up 416.40 points to easily out-distance senior runner-up Renee Gidden of Acton-Boxboro (393.10).

Andover went on to pick up 43 points overall as junior Lauren Colby placed third with 363.65 points, senior Jillian Bargar fifth

(329.05) and sophomore Leah Psinos eighth (299.15).

Another supreme showing by diving coach Becky Pierce's squad.

Methuen was the only other school with more than two divers qualified, but the Rangers' trio only scored seven points.

Overall there were 12 divers in the competition.

Solid contributions

Earning second place for the champs was junior Ellen Cody in the 500 free (5:13.76).

This was another high-scoring event for Andover, which picked up 28 points with senior Jenny Meltz contributing a fourth in a personal-best (by seven seconds) 5:15.30 and senior Jen Geary adding eighth in a personal-best (by more than five seconds) 5:24.28.

Capturing additional thirds were McAuliffe in the 100 backstroke (1:02.10) and Melissa Alois in the 100 breaststroke (personal-best 1:10.19).

The 200 free 'A' relay of junior Ginny Gibson (27.48 split), Gaj (26.22), Ross (26.08) and anchor Jen Geary (26.23) was also third in a team-best 1:46.01.

Meltz was fourth in the 200 free (personal-best 1:59.91) and Cody seventh (2:00.64).

Jen Geary finished fourth in the 200 IM (personal-best 2:17.15), while senior Capt. Cassandra Valler (eighth, personal-best 2:20.02) and McAuliffe (ninth, personal-best 2:20.17) made it 36 points for Andover in the event.

Ross was seventh (and the top freshman) in the 50 free (personal-best 26.12) and eighth in the 100 free (personal-best 57.11).

Junior Allison Alwan placed sixth (1:03.11) and Gaj eighth (personal-best 1:04.40) in the 100 back.

Valler added a sixth (personal-best 1:11.46) and freshman Alexandra Alois was 11th (1:13.24) in the 100 breast, with Alois's performance clipping another three seconds off her previous best time.

Gaj placed 12th in the 100 free (personal-best 57.66).

Continued on page 18

MIAA NORTH SECTIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MEET

at Blodgett Pool, Harvard University

TEAM SCORES

1. ANDOVER 320 pts; 2. Acton-Boxboro 210.5; 3. Chelmsford 192; 4. Reading 95; 5. Methuen 79; 6. Haverhill 73; 7. Winchester 70; 8. Cambridge Rindge & Latin 57; 9. Belmont 53; Lexington 44; 11. Stoneham 42.5; 12. Burlington 41; 13. Central Catholic 31; 14. Lowell 29; 15. Dracut 26; 16. Notre Dame Academy-Tyngsboro 12; 17. Boston Latin 11; 18. Billerica 7.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

(Andover Placers)

Top 12 Score

200 MEDLEY RELAY: 1. Erin McAuliffe, Melissa Alois, Kristi Korsberg & Tiffany Petzold 1:53.54.

200 FREE: 1. Kristi Korsberg 1:52.90; 4. Jenny Meltz 1:59.91; 7. Ellen Cody 2:00.64.

200 IM: 1. Tiffany Petzold 2:09.64; 4. Jen Geary 2:17.15; 8. Cassandra Valler 2:20.02; 9. Erin McAuliffe 2:20.17.

50 FREE: 7. Brittany Ross 26.12.

1-METER DIVING: 1. Katie O'Connell 416.40 pts; 3. Lauren Colby 363.65; 5. Jillian Bargar 329.05; 8. Leah Psinos 299.15.

100 BUTTERFLY: 3. Kristi Korsberg 1:00.07.

100 FREE: 1. Tiffany Petzold 53.92; 8. Brittany Ross 57.11; 12. Kerry Gaj 57.66.

500 FREE: 2. Ellen Cody 5:13.76; 4. Jenny Meltz 5:15.30; 8. Jen Geary 5:24.28.

200 FREE RELAY: 3. Ginny Gibson, Kerry Gaj, Brittany Ross & Jen Geary 1:46.01.

100 BACKSTROKE: 3. Erin McAuliffe 1:02.10; 6. Allison Alwan 1:03.11; 8. Kerry Gaj 1:04.40.

100 BREASTSTROKE: 3. Melissa Alois 1:10.19; 6. Cassandra Valler 1:11.46; 11. Alexandra Alois 1:13.24.

400 FREE RELAY: 1. Brittany Ross, Kerry Gaj, Kristi Korsberg & Tiffany Petzold 3:40.53.

WARRIOR FOOTBALL: Heading toward Thanksgiving Day

It all comes down to the finale

By Rick Harrison

It would be the perfect exclamation point to a successful 2006 season.

Knock off Central Catholic in the finale on Thanksgiving morning at Lovely Field - and possibly cost the archrival Raiders an Eastern Mass. playoff berth and potential trip to a Super Bowl.

That possibility will be a primary motive for the Andover High varsity footballers, who improved to 7-3

overall by riding a third-quarter explosion to a 42-14 victory over non-league first-time opponent Marblehead.

If AHS can topple Central, which clinched at least a share of the MVC title by beating Methuen (35-7) last weekend, and either Lowell or Dracut or both win on Turkey Day, the Raiders could be odd-man out for the playoffs.

It could all come down to a coin flip, or if Lowell wins and Dracut

loses then LHS would go to the post-season for the first time ever.

A victory for the Golden Warriors would also mean a winning record in the conference - with Andover entering the Central clash at 4-3 in league play.

Central is 8-2 overall and 6-1 league (see standings below).

Deja vu

For the second straight week

Andover was sluggish at the start of the Marblehead game, falling behind 14-7 early in the second quarter before the wakeup call came and AHS ripped off the final 35 points including 21 in the third quarter to snap a 14-14 halftime tie.

The 42 points were a season best, although the high-powered Golden Warriors have also scored 34 or more three other times and at least 21 in all but one game this fall.

"It was the story of two halves again - just like Methuen," noted AHS head coach Ken Maglio. "Defensively, we didn't do much right on their first two possessions. But after that Marblehead had negative yardage the rest of the game."

Andover finished with a well-balanced 331 yards - 167 passing and 164 on the ground - while the Magicians managed only 90 total yards from scrimmage.

"Again, like last week, J.B. Israel (10 tackles, sack), Gordon DuBois (team-high 12 tackles, two sacks) and Mike Ruth (8 tackles) controlled the 'los' (line of scrimmage), putting pressure on their backs before they could get going," noted Maglio.

"The KO (knockout/kickoff) team dominated - led by Corey Steele and DuBois."

On the second-half kickoff, with the score tied 14-14, Ken Masse put the ball on the Magicians' one yard line and Kevin Hitchko recovered a fumble to give Andover first-and-goal in the shadow of the end zone.

Corey Steele smashed over on the next play and Andover took the

lead for good.

"Matt Rayner made some excellent catches (4) for a season-high 142 yards in receptions," noted Maglio. "And he showed his athleticism, shiftness and quickness on a 48 yard punt return for a score in the fourth."

Quarterback Mike Pierce, although completing only six of 17 passes, hooked up with Rayner on a 58 yard touchdown play in the first period and sparked the 21-point third stanza blitz with a pair of short TD runs.

The touchdowns were the team-high 12th and 13th of the season for the signal-caller, and he now shares the AHS scoring lead with Ken Masse (both 78 points) while also tossing 12 TD passes.

"Peter Hanson threw a key block actually pancaking the Marblehead kid in the open field - to break Mike open on his first score," noted Maglio.

Rayner added his late 48 yard punt return for a TD to his fifth scoring reception.

Corey Steele made it three Golden Warriors with a pair of touchdowns, slamming over from two and one yard out for his 8th and 9th tallies (54 points).

"For us to beat Central we must start a lot faster than the past two weeks," noted Maglio. "We can play with anyone if we come out storming."

Marblehead, a member of the Division 2A Northeastern Conference Small School Division, fell to 3-7 overall including 2-5 on their

home field with this loss.

Andover has now outscored the opposition, 282-217.

Stop Leavitt

If the Golden Warriors are to defeat Central next Thursday, a main objective will be putting the clamps on top Central ballcarrier Mike Leavitt.

Leavitt is among the top scorers and rushers in Eastern Mass. Division 1A with 108 points and 1,281 yards on the ground.

Big Chris Morales is also a threat in the backfield with 28 points and 758 yards rushing.

QB Shain Jowett had one of his best games in the romp over Methuen last weekend, pitching a 29 yard TD pass (fourth of season) and scoring his second rushing TD on a five yard run.

The Raiders have beaten non-leaguers Lawrence High (22-6) and Foxboro (9-5), along with MVC foes Dracut (28-21), Billerica (20-7), Haverhill (35-0), Tewksbury (20-6), Chelmsford (25-14) and Methuen.

The losses were to non-league St. John's Prep of Danvers (27-17) and Lowell (13-10).

Head coach Chuck Adamopoulos' crew has dominated the Turkey Day rivalry in recent years, winning 22-6 last year after AHS prevailed, 22-13, two years ago.

Central has won seven of the last nine games and 12 of the last 15 on Thanksgiving.

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Phoenix School	Salem	PK-8	978 741 0870	Wed. 11/8, Thurs. 11/16
Pike School	Andover	PK-9	978 475 1197	Tues. 12/5 (Grades 6 & 9 only)
Prigree School	South Hamilton	9-12	978 468 4415	By individual appointment
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AHS ROUNDUP

TOURNAMENT ACTION

Continued from page 16

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

On the heels of last fall's run to the Division 1 state final, the 2006 Andover High girls varsity volleyball team reached the state semifinals before suffering a 3-1 setback to Newton North.

Last November the Lady Warriors clicked off four straight 3-0 tourney victories over Medford, Lowell, Lawrence and Lincoln-Sudbury, before losing to Barnstable 4-0 in the State Division 1 championship match.

With only two returning starters, Allie Navarro, Meghan Thomann and five other letterwinners back from that squad, few predicted the locals would capture a second straight North title.

In the three-match run to the program's third Division 1 North crown, AHS made it look almost too easy in reaching the final with 3-0 sweeps of Tewksbury in the quarterfinals and Peabody in the semis.

Coach George Sullivan's top-seed squad was tested in the championship match, however, while pounding out a hard-earned 3-1 triumph over

Reading.

The Lady Warriors, just two victories from winning the State Division 1 title, could not contend with Newton North.

Andover finished 22-2 overall with the 22 wins matching a single-season school high for the program which finished 22-1 in 1999 after going 20-0 during the regular season.

The locals had 16 perfect 3-0 sweeps this fall, three 3-1 wins and a trio of 3-2 victories over Billerica, Lawrence and Chelmsford.

Sullivan recorded his milestone 300th win along the way and now stands at 306-134 overall.

"I never envisioned this kind of season," said Sullivan. "At the beginning of the year I was skeptical about getting 16 wins and reaching 300."

"Once again we had a great group of kids. They worked so hard and made it easier. Our practices just flew by and that's a sure sign people are having fun."

Newton North will now face undefeated perennial power and South champ Barnstable (23-0), which topped Lincoln-Sudbury in the other semifinal.

The state title match is Saturday night at the neutral Hudson High court (7 p.m.).

Orent sings anthem

AHS sophomore middle hitter Shayna Orent sang the National Anthem prior to several tournament matches at the Dunn Gym.

All-Scholastic

MVC Division 1 Player of the Year Allie Navarro, who hopes to attend Springfield College next fall, added to her list of laurels when she was selected as an All-Scholastic earlier this week.

George Sullivan was also chosen the Eastern Mass. Division 1 Coach of the Year.

Team banquet

The annual team banquet is this Sunday at Andover Country Club, with several major awards to be presented and next year's captains announced.

Five seniors

The Lady Warriors say goodbye to five seniors. Capt. Allie Navarro and Kasey O'Dea moving on along with

Heather Arvidson, Caroline O'Malley and Amy Philpott.

Stat leaders

In the 24 matches, the top three individual hitters were Heather Arvidson with 166 kills, Caroline O'Malley 129 kills and Meghan Thomann 112 kills.

Tops in serving accuracy were Thomann (97 percent), Arvidson (96 percent), Shayna Orent (96 percent) and Kim Crawford (96 percent).

Katie Fionte finished with 66 service aces, Allie Navarro 53 and O'Malley 53.

Navarro was the top defender, 854-for-955 passing (90 percent).

MIAA Tournament

STATE SEMIFINALS

Newton North 3

Andover 1

Although the AHS boys have faced Newton North in the tourney before, this was the first meeting on the court between the two girls teams.

It came at the neutral Westford Academy gym, and North overcame an early first-game deficit to register a 25-23, 25-18, 23-25, 25-21 triumph.

"We were controlling the first game before things got a bit funky," said Sullivan. "We only had 10 bad serves in the match - but five of them came in this game and all were at crucial times."

"There were some nerves showing on our side. Everyone looked afraid to make a mistake. We started tipping the ball instead of smashing it. And nobody was moving. It was like we were wearing cement shoes."

AHS fell way, way behind in game two before a brief rally made the final score respectable.

"We turned it around in the third game, after making a few changes, and played great," said Sullivan. "The fourth game was a classic - back-and-forth the whole way with some phenomenal defensive plays by both teams."

"Their coach (Richard Burton) said they (Newton) played their best match of the year - and he praised our girls for bringing out the best in his team."

"Newton is very big and athletic in the middle," said Sullivan. "We knew what they were going to do, but could not stop them from doing it. Their middle hitter can sky, and even though we blocked their outside hitters the libero was excellent on defense."

"Their setter was the biggest key. She's about 6-foot-1, is strong, moves well and has good hands."

Caroline O'Malley finished with a team-high 30-for-32 hitting, with 10 kills, and she added 10-for-12 serving

three aces and 5-for-6 passing in her final high school match.

"Caroline really stepped up and turned things around for us in the third game," said Sullivan. "She got us back in the match."

Katie Fionte contributed 17-for-20 hitting, five kills, 10-for-14 serving, one ace and 12-for-20 passing.

Heather Arvidson also had five kills, 17-for-22 hitting and 2-for-4 passing.

Meghan Thomann delivered four kills and one ace, going 8-for-12 hitting, 10-for-12 serving and 28-for-32 passing.

Allie Navarro capped her AHS career with a busy 35-for-42 passing, 11-for-14 hitting, 13-for-14 serving, two kills and three aces.

Shayna Orent was 3-for-3 hitting with two kills, 12-for-12 serving with one ace and 16-for-22 passing.

Kasey O'Dea posted 3-for-3 hitting, one kill, 6-for-7 serving and 7-for-10 passing.

Kim Crawford chipped in 4-for-4 serving and 7-for-13 passing, while Anne Tibbitts went 2-for-2 hitting with one kill.

As a team, AHS recorded 30 kills, nine aces and was 93-for-108 hitting (86 percent), 65-for-75 serving (87 percent) and 113-for-151 passing (75 percent).

Newton North, the top seed in Central/East Division 1, exited with a 22-1 overall record including Sectional wins over Boston Latin School (3-0) in the quarterfinals, North Quincy (3-1) in the semis and No. 3 seed Brookline (3-0) in the title match.

This was the second Newton North team to oust an Andover tourney foe, the Tigers also 1-0 winners on the girls soccer field.

Division 1 North

SEMIFINAL ROUND

Andover 3

Peabody 0

AHS dumped non-league rival and No. 4 seed Peabody (15-5) twice during the regular season, 3-0 and 3-1.

The Tanners had moved to the semifinals with a 3-1 victory over Methuen, but were no match for the North top seed.

The Lady Warriors continued their outstanding overall team play in a convincing 25-12, 25-16, 25-19 romp at the Dunn Gym.

"We had beaten Peabody twice before this season," said coach Sullivan. "That fact, and because we were on our home court again, could have led to complacency. But Allie Navarro, as usual, made sure that didn't happen by keeping everyone fired up with her energy."

"We served well, with only five errors, hit the ball hard and kept control the whole way," said Sullivan. "We never let Peabody build any momentum."

"This year we don't have any real dominant hitters. We spread the wealth around - and that's a good thing because opponents have a tougher time covering the front row. They can't concentrate on any one player."

That said, Heather Arvidson did have an exceptionally strong game at the net with 10 kills and 26-for-27 hitting.

Annie Tibbitts had one of her best matches on offense with 10-for-10 and four kills, while Caroline O'Malley was 13-for-17 with four kills and Meghan Thomann 15-for-17 with three kills.

Arvidson added 3-for-3 serving and 4-for-7 passing, Tibbitts 4-for-6 passing, O'Malley 11-for-11 serving with three aces and 8-for-8 passing, Thomann 7-for-7 serving and 24-for-25 passing.

Shayna Orent was the leading server, 12-for-13 with four aces, and she also went 3-for-3 hitting and 21-for-22 passing.

"Shayna was picking Peabody apart all night with the placement of her serves and passes," said Sullivan.

Navarro backed up her vocal encouragement by finishing 7-for-8 hitting with one kill, 10-for-13 serving with one ace and 37-for-40 passing.

Katie Fionte contributed 13-for-16 hitting, 6-for-6 serving and 17-for-18 passing.

Kasey O'Dea was 10-for-11 serving with one ace, 18-for-21 passing and 2-for-2 hitting.

Also playing well defensively for the Lady Warriors were Kim Crawford, Amy Philpott and Rebecca Johnson.

The Lady Warriors were 90-for-102 hitting (88 percent) with 22 kills, 59-for-64 serving (92 percent) with nine aces and 138-for-154 passing (90 percent).

CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH

Andover 3

Reading 1

This was a different Rockets team than the one Andover smoked 3-0 in the season opener for both on Sept. 6.

This time around at the neutral and uncomfortably warm Lowell High Riddick Memorial Field House, Reading was ready and pushed the Lady Warriors to excel before AHS walked off the floor with a 25-18, 28-30, 27-25, 25-19 victory.

"Reading has two very good outside hitters," said Sullivan. "They're a better team than we faced earlier this season. More confident and more experienced."

"This was an excellent spectator's match with a lot of outstanding defensive actions. We had 10 bad serves, but in the end a major factor was how hard we served - and how much trouble Reading had on service return."

After capturing the first game handily, AHS appeared on the verge of a

Continued on page 20

PERFECT IN THEIR FIELD



The future of the Andover High field hockey program would appear secure after the freshman team went undefeated this fall. Pictured are (front, lying down) goaltender Hannah Pratt. Front row (l-r): Melissa Pesatauro, Elizabeth Kerrigan, Anne Rao, Diane Sun, Kate Kearns, Olivia Caradonio, Erin Christopher, Julia Shapiro, Lauren O'Hagan. Back row: Coach Kristen Moriarty, Nicole Giroux, Kylie Nagy, Mary Charlotte Buck, Sarah Oteri, Emily Lemay, Becca Jacobs, Elizabeth Merritt, Sierra Zwilling, Kaleigh Timmins, Andrea Manning, Violet Jackson, Cabrera Casey, Michelle Parks and Yana Riendeau.

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AHS ROUNDUP

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Continued from page 18

going up 2-0 with a commanding 23-16 lead in game two.

But momentum shifted — as it so often does in this sport — and the Rockets went on a 14-5 run to square the match with the 30-28 overtime win.

"We controlled the first game and then got funky after taking the lead in game two," said Sullivan. "If we had won game two it would have broken their back — but we let it slip away."

The teams fought tooth-and-nail in game three, both trying to take control, and in the end it was three Katie Fionte kills and an Allie Navarro ace that sealed the 27-25 OT victory for the locals.

Disheartened by the tough loss, Reading couldn't recover and lost game four, which was highlighted by Caroline O'Malley's string of eight straight service points.

Fionte was the top AHS hitter with 8 kills and 22-for-28, while she also went 13-for-16 both serving and passing with three aces.

Heather Arvidson, one of four AHS players who had trouble breathing because the heat was cranked up so high in the gym, finished 29-for-34 hitting with seven kills and a team-high 12 blocks.

Meghan Thomann also added seven kills, 20-for-25 hitting, 10-for-12 serving and 30-for-36 passing.

Caroline O'Malley went 15-for-20 hitting with three kills, 15-for-16 serving with three aces and 12-for-15 passing.

MVC 1 Player of the Year Allie Navarro had three kills and three aces, going 8-for-9 hitting, 9-for-10 serving and 40-for-44 passing.

Shayna Orent, after singing the National Anthem, contributed a near-perfect night with 6-for-6 hitting, two kills, 12-for-12 serving, one ace and 24-for-27 passing.

Other solid performances were turned in by Kim Crawford (3-for-3 serving, 4-for-6 passing), Annie Tib-

bitts (2-for-3 hitting, 2-for-4 passing) and Kasey O'Dea (11-for-14 serving).

The locals were 105-for-127 hitting (83 percent) with 30 kills, 73-for-83 serving (88 percent) with 10 aces and 126-for-155 passing (82 percent).

After the victory the team retired to the O'Dea home to watch a videotape of the match.

Reading finished the season at 17-3 after blanking Medford, 3-0, in its quarterfinal and upsetting Billerica, the only team to beat Andover, 3-1 in the semifinals.

CROSS COUNTRY

Solid individual performances by senior Maggie Cosgrove and junior Casey Harrison, who placed 9th and 20th respectively, sparked the Andover High girls cross country team to a 7th-place finish at the 2006 MIAA Eastern Mass. Division 1 Championship Meet held on an unseasonably balmy day at Franklin Park in Boston.

On the AHS boys side, Pete Shaw crossed the line 30th as the locals settled for 16th place and beat more than

half the schools in the field.

Schedule

Cosgrove, Harrison and Shaw are all headed to the season-ending All-State Meet this Saturday at the Northfield Recreation Center in Central Mass.

EMass. Division 1 Championship Meet Andover girls

After a 7-3 dual-meet season and 4th-place showing in the rain at the Merrimack Valley Conference Championship Meet, head coach Leo Lafond's AHS girls responded well to the spring-like weather conditions.

As she has all fall, Maggie Cosgrove led the way for the Lady Warriors by finishing 9th in a field of 182 runners.

The Sacred Heart hoop recruit covered the 5K (3.1 miles) Franklin Park course in 19 minutes, 46 seconds to earn a berth at this weekend's All-State Meet.

Her time was a mere 16 seconds behind the third-place finisher.

Jessica Barton of Newton North was the individual winner in 18:49.

Casey Harrison, making a strong recovery from an early-season injury, punched her ticket to Northfield with a 20:11 clocking that was good for 20th place and just six seconds from putting her in the top 15.

Other scorers for the locals were junior Mary Burke (51st, 21:13), Shannon Cooney (64th, 21:35) and sophomore Colleen Shannon (76th, 22:06).

Also competing for AHS were junior Jenn George (79th, 22:09) and junior Vanessa DiPasquale (84th, 22:17).

Andover chalked up 220 points for 7th in a 26-school field.

The only teams ahead of the locals were champ Lincoln-Sudbury (107 points), MVC rival Chelmsford (129), Newton South (135), Haverhill (137),

Weymouth (136) and Newton North (156).

With four schools among the top eight finishers (Billerica was 8th), the Merrimack Valley Conference made the strongest showing of any league.

Andover boys

Like Casey Harrison, if AHS senior Capt. Pete Shaw had been healthy all season there's no telling where he would have finished in the Division 1 Meet.

Still not 100 percent after a stress fracture suffered from over-training last summer, Shaw was nonetheless impressive with a 17-minute, 5-second time over the 5K course to cross 30th in a field of 235 harriers.

Shaw was only a half-minute from finishing in the top 15.

Mark Amirault of Xaverian Brothers High in Westwood won the race in 15:47.

Senior Capt. Saverino "Sayo" Maldari was the second AHS placer, 64th overall in 17:39, while senior Capt. Frank Perrone was 111th in 18:17.

Also scoring for the Golden Warriors were sophomore Andrew Speen (135th, 18:40) and junior Jon Morgan (142nd, 18:49).

Completing the seven-runner squad were junior Mike Primes (148th, 18:51) and senior Peter Roman (19:38).

Andover scored 465 points to finish 16th among 34 schools.

Brookline won the team title with 59 points after placing three of the top 11 runners.

LEADER OF THE PACK



Casey Moulton of Pelham, N.H., succeeded his twin brother, Patrick, as the overall winner of the Larry Robinson 10 Miler at Andover High School on Sunday morning, in a time of 52 minutes flat. In the 2005 race, Patrick Moulton won in a record time of 49:39. Carol Kondoleon of Andover was the overall women's winner in 64:26. In the Larry Robinson 5K race, Terriane McGettrick-Arpin was a repeat winner in this year's race in 18:20; and Brendan Dagan was the overall male winner in a time of 16:41. Results, more photos in next week's issue.

24th annual Scott Heseltine Hockey Tournament announced

The 24th annual Scott Heseltine Hockey Tournament will be held Thanksgiving weekend at Phillips Academy.

The Andover Hockey Association, in memory of Scott Heseltine, hosts this tournament. Heseltine learned to skate at Phillips Academy and played at all levels of the Andover Hockey Association program from Mite through Midget. Midway through his senior year at Austin Preparatory School, he was killed in a car accident. In his memory, this tournament is dedicated to promoting good sportsmanship, camaraderie and fun for young hockey players. This year the Andover Mite 1's will host teams from Marblehead, Masconomet, Newburyport, North Andover, North Reading, South Boston and Wakefield.

The first game will be held Friday, Nov. 24 starting at 2 p.m. Games on Saturday, Nov. 25 begin at 11:50 a.m., and Sunday, Nov. 26 at 8:20 a.m.

The Andover Mite 1 team will play at 3 p.m. on Friday, 2:10 p.m. on Saturday, and 9:30 a.m. on Sunday. A championship game will be played at 1 p.m. on Sunday. All of the games are open to the public, free of charge. "Come on down and cheer on the Andover Mite 1 team," organizers said.

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NN24P-111606V1-A1MA

Arts & Entertainment

EVENTS CALENDAR



Red Barn, by Linda Lee (oil on canvas, 12 x 16 inches) is part of "Short Days, Long Shadows" at Lorica Artworks, 90 Main St. The exhibit opens tomorrow, Friday, Nov. 17 with a reception from 6 to 9 p.m. featuring live traditional Irish music by the Ceili band. All are welcome. Admission is free. The exhibit will be on view through Dec. 31. Call 978-470-1829 or check out www.loricaartworks.com.

Thursday, Nov. 16

Author visit, 5 p.m., featuring Debbie Hagan, author of "Against the Tide," Massachusetts School of Law, Courtroom No. 2, Andover. Free; all welcome.

Author visit, 7 p.m. with Randall Peffer. Features reading from his new mystery, "Province-town Follies, Bangkok Blues." Free; all welcome. Andover Bookstore, 89 Rear Main St. 978-475-0143

9th Annual Preschool Fair, 6:30 to 9 p.m. sponsored by the Mother Connection Inc. at the Wyndham Andover Hotel. Opportunity to meet with area preschool representatives from more than 40 preschools. Free; all welcome.

"Alex's Team" Foundation fundraiser, 6:30 to 10 p.m. at Filippo Ristorante, 283 Causeway St., Boston. Tickets \$100; includes meal, wine, and donation. For tickets, visit www.alexsteamfoundation.com. "Alex's Team" Foundation was established in 2002 in memory of Alexandra Jane Miliotis, daughter of Mark and Patti Miliotis of Andover. Alexandra, an artist and three-sport athlete at Andover High School, succumbed to leukemia at 16.

Oil painting demonstration, 6:30 p.m. by Dennis Bone at Tewksbury Hospital, 354 East St. Free to Tewksbury Community of Artist members; \$3 non-members. www.tewksbury.com

info@tea.

"Sunny-Side Up" performance, 7 p.m. presented by Central Catholic Theatre Guild at Rogers Memorial Theater, 300 Hampshire St., Lawrence. Comedy written by Shirley McNichols. Tickets \$10. E-mail Ron Russo at RRusso@central-catholic.net.

"Into the Woods" performance, 7:30 p.m. by Andover High School Drama Guild and Music Department at the Collins Center, 80 Shawheen Road, Andover. Tickets \$18 for adults; \$9 for seniors and students. 978-623-8666.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

Friday, Nov. 17

Opening reception, 6 to 9 p.m. for "Short Days-Long Shadows," a group show exhibiting original artwork by Irish and American artists. Includes live music by the Ceili Band. Lorica Artworks, 90 Main St., Andover. 978-470-1829 or www.loricaartworks.com.

Annual Christmas Bazaar, 3 to 8 p.m. with St. Joseph School of All Saints Parish in the school gymnasium, 56 Oak Terrace, Haverhill. Spaghetti dinner from 4 to 7:30 p.m. includes raffles, crafts, baked goods, cookie stroll and children's activities.

Friends of Flint Memorial Library book sale, 6 to 9 p.m. at 147 Park St., North Reading. 978-664-4942.

Continued on page 22



David and Permella Sears, husband-and-wife ministers of music at West Parish Church (above and below, left) will share a piano and perform a wide-ranging collection of duets Sunday, Nov. 19 at the Lawrence Public Library's Sargent Auditorium.

The intuitive feel of a four-handed duet

By Brian Messenger

DAVID FOSTER SEARS and Permella Singer Sears, husband-and-wife ministers of music at West Parish Church, have been playing piano duets together since before they were married 33 years ago.

David is a composer and professor of fine arts at Merrimack College, while Permella teaches both piano and organ at home and plays viola with the Arlington Philharmonic Society. They also have a concert this weekend — for which they've been practicing for more than a year.

The Seares will share a piano and perform a wide-ranging collection of duets on Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m. in the Lawrence Public Library's Sargent Auditorium.

Averaging one hour of practice a day and beginning their preparations for this Sunday's program back in September 2005, the couple shows the dedication it takes to not only excel at one's instrument, but in one's relationship as well.

Younger musicians take note: hard work — a lot of hard work — will take you to the top of your field, as both the

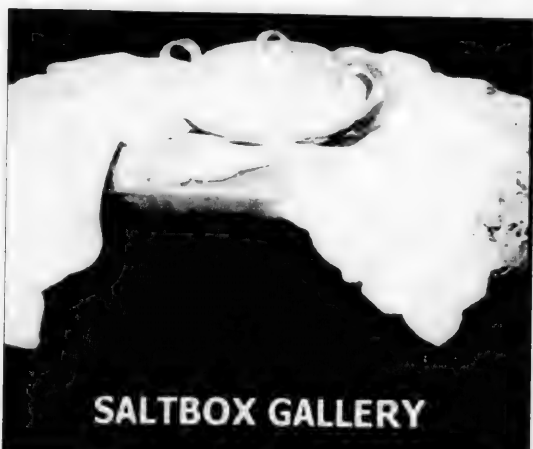
FOUR-HAND PIANO MUSIC

- ▶ Permella and David Sears
- ▶ Sunday, Nov. 19 at 2 p.m.
- ▶ Free concert in Lawrence Public Library's Sargent Auditorium

Sears' and Permella's musical dedication and busy schedules notwithstanding.

"They don't do it for the fame and not all of the money," said David, "but for the challenge and the joy of it. And certainly, it's a lot of hard work."

Continued on page 24



SALTBOX GALLERY



The Saltbox Gallery's November exhibit will be held at the Topsfield Fairgrounds on Route 1 in Topsfield this Friday through Sunday, Nov. 17-19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., with an artists' reception Friday from 7 to 9 p.m. Also featured will be a silent auction fundraiser to help restore the steeple of the Historic Meetinghouse on Topsfield Common. Admission and parking are free. The exhibit invitation (above) shows "Little Covered Dish," an oil painting by Laura Stover, and "Young Mariner," an oil painting by Anne Krapish. For more information, call the gallery at 978-887-3844.

'T' IS FOR TALK

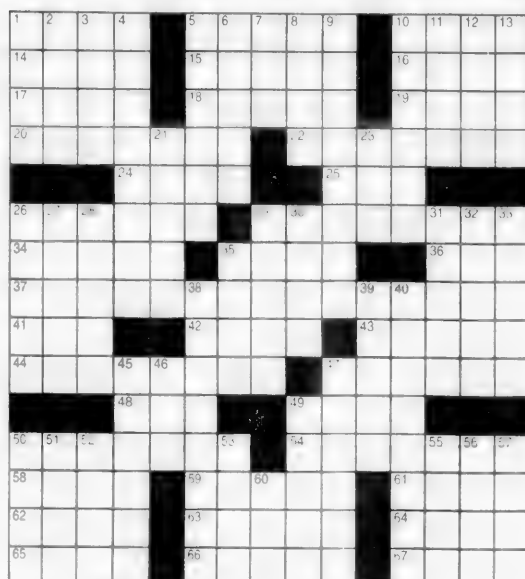


Julie Bernson, at left, director of education at the Addison Gallery of American Art, leads a tour of the American Alphabets exhibit with the deaf and hard-of-hearing students of Lawrence High School. Behind her (at center) Andover resident and teacher Nancy Hogan signs and translates to the students. The American Alphabets exhibit, by Wendy Ewald, is a photographic series (through December) designed to look at written language from various cultural perspectives.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

CLUES ACROSS

1. A monk or nun's small room
5. City in Yakima, WA
10. City in Maine
14. Chinese minority aka Hmong
- * 15. 1836 U.S. siege location
16. First Chinese dynasty
17. Yugoslavian River
18. A group in a formal system of nomenclature
19. Group chaos
20. Cheese dish
22. Citizens of Seoul
24. Old Italian monetary units
25. Not high
26. ___ Boothe Luce, American author
29. Present in great quantity
34. Plumber's snake
35. Ancient Greek coin
36. Fish eggs
37. Bedazzled
41. Denotes three
42. Untouchable Eliot
43. Glorify
44. Sound powers of the mind
47. Bitsy
48. Scoundrel
49. This circular object
50. Disney town
54. ___ Hess, oil company
58. Military disguise
59. Clematis ___ of Woking
61. Expresses pleasure
62. One of the Great Lakes



63. One who tightens a corset
64. A light two-wheel carriage
65. Simpson prosecutor C. ___ en
66. Icelandic poems
67. Finless fish

CLUES DOWN

1. Military leader (abbr.)
2. Mammal genus
3. Natural home of an animal
4. More isolated
5. Trenchant wit or sarcasm
6. Fill with high spirits
7. Permissive
8. Murderous frenzy
9. State capital
10. Insightful and wise
11. Continent
12. Heir (alt. spelling)
13. Cereal grain
21. Makes a whirring sound
23. Director Howard
26. Molds
27. River Otter genus
28. Once more
29. Gulf
30. Cat calls
31. Caucasian of Nordic descent
32. Christmas carols
33. Cranky
35. Small integers
38. Not suitable for food
39. Della ___, singer
40. To feel loathing for
45. Resounded
46. No (Scottish)
47. Hourglasses
49. Trailing Indigo bush
50. Got an A
51. Ancient Japanese religious center
52. Title of Kuwait's head of state
53. Made of fermented honey and water
55. Swiss river
56. "James and the Giant Peach" author
57. Cobras
60. Computer screen material

SOLUTION ON PAGE 23

EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 16 THRU DEC. 7

Continued from page 21

Holiday Craft Fair and Shopping Night, 6 to 9 p.m. at Doherty Middle School, 50 Bartlett St., Andover. Sponsored by Doherty PAC.

"Celebrating Womanhood: An Evening for Women by Women," 7 to 9:30 p.m. at Body Temple Wellness Center, 354 Merrimack St., Lawrence. Includes vendors, crafts, musicians and authors. 978-686-9200.

"Sunny-Side Up" performance, 7 p.m. presented by Central Catholic Theatre Guild at Rogers Memorial Theater, 300 Hampshire St., Lawrence. Comedy written by Shirley McNichols. Tickets \$10. E-mail Ron Russo at RRusso@centralcatholic.net.

Annual Thanksgiving Turkey Cheer, 7 p.m. with Methuen Knights of Columbus 4027 at Gaythorne Hall, 462 Rear Broadway. All welcome. Includes prizes, raffles and turkey gift certificates. 978-681-6339.

Nettle Middle School 3rd Annual Turkey Shoot, 7 to 10 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, Summer Street, Haverhill. Admission \$5 or two for \$6. 978-521-3433.

"Five Wishes" program, 7:30 p.m. with Dr. Deborah Turiano of Seacoast Hospice at Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 6

Locke St., Andover. Helps to express how patients wish to be treated if seriously ill and unable to make requests. Includes video and discussion. Free; all welcome. 978-475-4454 or www.uuandover.org.

"Into the Woods" performance, 7:30 p.m. by Andover High School Drama Guild and Music Department at the Collins Center, 80 Shawheen Road, Andover. Tickets \$18 adults; \$9 seniors and students. 978-623-8666.

Friday Night Live Shabbat Service, 7:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel in Andover, 7 Haggetts Pond Road. Directed by Cantor Donn Rosensweig and features Adult and Junior Choirs and band led by Assistant Music Director, Idan Irelander. www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1356.

Silent movie screening, 8 p.m., featuring "The Freshman" from 1925 with organ accompaniment by Chandler Noyes. Methuen Memorial Music Hall, 192 Broadway. Admission \$10 adults, \$3 children.

Lowell Philharmonic Orchestra Concert, 8 p.m. at Sullivan Middle School, 150 Draper St. Free; all welcome. Features works by Beethoven, Haydn, MacDowell and Lowell native George Chadwick, conducted by Valerie Taylor.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

Saturday, Nov. 18

Annual Christmas Bazaar, 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. with St. Joseph School of All Saints Parish in the school gymnasium, 56 Oak Terrace, Haverhill. Pancake breakfast with Santa from 8 to 11:30 a.m. Includes raffles, crafts, baked goods, cookie stroll and children's activities.

TEACH Program craft fair, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the St. James school building, 415 Primrose St., Haverhill. Tables and space available. Call Ken McDowell at 978-374-3482.

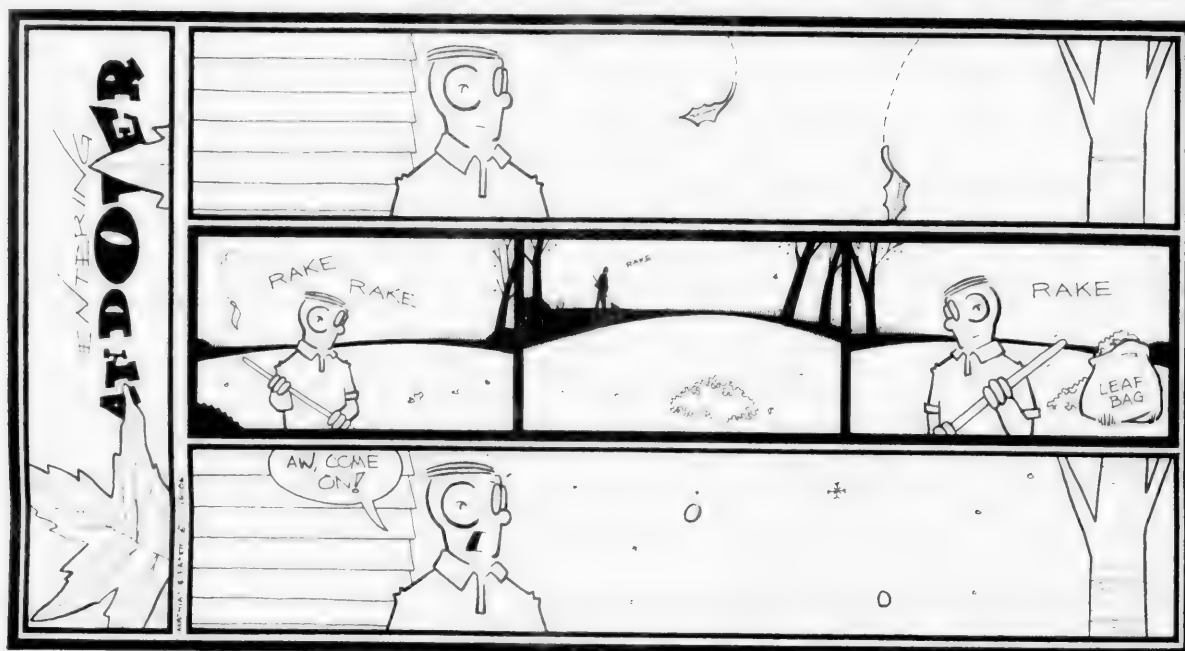
Christmas Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church, 471 Main St., Haverhill. Features handmade gift items, centerpieces, wreaths and baked goods. Luncheon items such as soups, chowders and sandwiches will be available. Call 978-372-2843 or 978-374-1924.

St. Francis Parish Christmas Gift and Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 978-374-1924.

Continued on page 23

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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 16 THRU DEC. 7

Continued from page 22

p.m., 115 Wheeler Road, Dracut. More than 30 vendors, chocolate shop, baked goods, breakfast, lunch, kids corner, raffled. Free admission. www.saintfrancis.net.

Friends of Flint Memorial

Library book sale, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 147 Park St., North Reading. 978-664-4942.

Snowflake Craft Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm St., North Andover. Includes handmade crafts, silent auction, gourmet baked goods, gift baskets, a yard sale in Grammy's Attic and photos with Santa. Free admission; all welcome. For information, call 978-686-4445 or e-mail offices@natrinitarian.org.

St. Louis School Christmas Fair, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. at corner of West Sixth and Boisvert streets, Lowell. Includes raffles, crafts, games, and Santa. 978-441-1055.

Morning Travelers playgroup meets, 10 a.m. to noon. Group for children with Down Syndrome and families at First-Calvary Baptist Church, 586 Massachusetts Ave., North Andover. Call Sharon at 978-974-0191.

Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. Gregory Church, 158 Main St., North Andover. Free admission. 978-685-5038.

Annual Craft Fair, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wingate at Andover, 80 Andover St. Includes crafts, baked goods, and raffles.

Thomson School Holiday Fair, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., 266 Waverly Road, North Andover, featuring kid-friendly family fun, gifts for the holiday season, crafters, theme baskets, bake sale, raffles, kids' crafts, pizza and other refreshments.

15th annual Methuen Santa Parade, 1 p.m. beginning at Pelham Street, continuing down Lowell and Hampshire streets to Broadway. Grand marshals of the parade are past and present members of the armed forces. Features 16 bands, floats, dancers and clowns.



Valerie's Gallery, 12 State St., Newburyport, will present a 'Holiday Photography Show' with an opening reception on Saturday, Nov. 18 from 5 to 8 p.m. Three area photographers — John Geesink, John Raleigh and Jim Scourletis — will be present and sharing new works. Above: "Artichoke Winter" by Jim Scourletis. For more information call 978-499-8444, or visit www.valeriesgalleries.com.

"Into the Woods" performance, 2 and 7:30 p.m. by Andover High School Drama Guild and Music Department at the Collins Center, 80 Shawheen Road, Andover. Tickets \$18 adults; \$9 seniors and students. 978-623-8666.

Andona Society fundraiser "A Sunset in Paris", 6:30 p.m. at Castleton Hall in Windham, N.H. Andona's mission is to raise funds to enhance the educational, athletic and cultural enrichment programs for the youth of Andover. Includes cocktails, dinner, dancing and silent auction. Tickets \$80 per person and \$160

per couple. Call Lisa Bahr 978-474-4626, or Leslie Baite 978-475-2372, or visit www.andonasociety.org.

"Sunny-Side Up" performance, 7 p.m. presented by Central Catholic Theatre Guild at Rosters Memorial Theater, 300 Haverhill St., Lawrence. Comedy written by Shirley McNamara. Tickets \$10. E-mail Ron Russo at RRusso@centralcatholictheatre.com.

"A Brand New Day" benefit dance, 7 p.m. to midnight at AmVets on Primrose Street, Haverhill, to benefit the Mass Family Fire Fund. Admission: \$20. Includes DJ, dancing, appetizers and raffles. Call 978-875-5193 or 978-994-9299.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 978-942-2212.

Sunday, Nov. 19

"An Israel Fair", 8:15 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel of Andover, 7 Haggitts Pond Road. Products for sale include food, arts, crafts, jewelry, Judaica, clothing and wine. www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1456.

Beginner and Advanced-Beginner Hebrew Classes for Adults.

9:30 a.m. at Andover School of Montessori, 400 South Main St. Sponsored by Congregation Beth Israel. Free; all welcome.

Ugly Bug Ball, noon to 2 p.m. and 3 to 5 p.m. for ages 4 to 10 at Valley Office Park, 13 Branch St., Methuen. Children should dress in bug costumes. Admission \$5. Includes crafts, parade and prizes. 978-685-8878 or www.methuenfestivaloffrees.com.

Haverhill's 42nd annual VFW Santa Parade, 1 p.m. Features 16 marching bands, dozens of floats and costume characters and clowns. 978-373-3777.

Abstract oil painting demonstration, 2 p.m. with Nell Lush and the Andover Artists Guild at North Parish Church, corner of Academy and Great Pond roads, North Andover. For information, call Deb at 978-682-7020.

Husband and Wife Perform Piano Duet, 2 p.m., free concert program of works written for piano duet ranging from classics by Mozart, Schubert, and Poulenc to comedic pieces by P.D.Q. Bach, Donizetti, and McDowell, featuring Permelia Singer Sears and David Foster Sears at the Sargent Auditorium, Lawrence Public Library, 51 Lawrence St., Lawrence.

"Into the Woods" performance, 2 p.m. by Andover High School Drama Guild and Music Department at the Collins Center, 80 Shawheen Road. Tickets \$18 adults; \$9 seniors and students. 978-623-8666.

Two Old Friends in concert, 2 p.m. at Memorial Hall Library, Elm Square, featuring Mac McHale and Emery Hutchins. Free; all welcome. Sponsored by Friends of Memorial Hall Library.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 978-942-2212.

Views and Schmoove, 5:30 p.m. featuring "Ushpizin" at Congregation Beth Israel, 501 South Main St. Humorous take on religious Jews living in a modern world. Free; all welcome.

"An Evening with Kitty Dukakis and Larry Tye", 7 p.m. at Temple Emanuel of Andover, 7 Haggitts Pond Road. Discussion of their new book, "Shock: A Moving Portrait of One Woman's Late-Changing Experience." Free; all welcome. www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1456.

Tuesday, Nov. 21

Massachusetts Archaeological Society meeting, 7:30 p.m. at R. S. Peabody Museum of Archaeology at Phillips Academy, Andover. Talk by Peter Sablock on "Noninvasive Geophysical Remote Sensing of Two 17th Century European Sites in Maine." Free. 978-749-4490.

Thursday, Nov. 23

Thanksgiving Day
Thanks-4-Giving 5K Road Race

Continued on page 24

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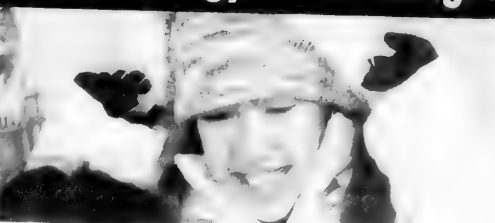
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Wine Dinner

Thursday, November 30th, 2006

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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 16 THRU DEC. 7
Continued from page 23

and Walk, 8 a.m. at Lowell Lodge of Elks, Old Ferry Road, Lowell. Entrv fee \$15 in advance. \$20 day of event. Proceeds benefit Alternative House's Transitional Housing Program. Call 978-937-5777.

Friday, Nov. 24

Kabbalat Shabbat Unplugged Service, 6 p.m. at Temple Emanuel of Andover, 7 Haggetts Pond Road. Led by Rabbi Robert Goldstein and Idan Irelander, accompanied by a variety of professional musicians. Features music and prose. All welcome. www.templemanuel.net or 978-476-1356.

Methuen High School 20th reunion, 6:30 p.m. at DrBurro's in Haverhill. Tickets \$50, includes dinner and DJ. For tickets or to offer information on locating classmates, call John Habib at 978-465-2737.

Andover High School class of 1986 20th reunion, 7 p.m. at the Wyndham Andover Hotel, Old River Road. For information, e-mail Lori Becker at lbecke21@aol.com.

North Andover High School class of 2001 five-year reunion, 5 p.m. to midnight at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 505 Sutton St. Admission \$10, includes food and cash bar. For information, e-mail Maggie Withbold at magnewithbold@gmail.com.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets

\$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

Saturday, Nov. 25

Andover High School Class of 1976 30th reunion, at the Wyndham Andover Hotel on Old River Road. Classmates are searching for addresses and e-mails. Anyone interested in helping or wanting information on how to contact classmates may contact Steve and Madelyn Mitton at 978-475-7761.

Tenney High School class of 1970 and 1971 reunion, at DrBurro's in Haverhill. Contact Kathy O'Connell and Rick Beshara at tenney7071@yahoo.com.

Lawrence High School class of 1971 35th reunion, at the Guest House in Methuen. Cost is \$65 per person. Call Veronica Jacobs at 978-475-2943.

Lawrence High School class of 1996 10-year reunion, at the Knights of Columbus, 1 Market St. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$15 at door. For tickets, e-mail Rebecca Melnick by Nov. 18 at rebecangel134@hotmail.com. For information, e-mail Olen Lu at prettylu14@hotmail.com.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors" opera performance, 3 and 7 p.m. at Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Route 28, Christmas-themed opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti. Tickets \$15 in advance, 603-635-7978.

45's Tournament, 5 p.m. at the Claddagh Pub, 399 Canal St. Dinner served at 4 p.m. Hosted by Ladies' Ancient Order of Hibernians Division 8. Admis-

sion \$15 general; \$12 members. 978-794-0911.

Methuen High School class of 1996 10-year reunion, 7 to 11 p.m. at Sal's Restaurant and Function Facility in Lawrence. Tickets are \$35 and must be purchased in advance. For tickets or information, call Stacy at 978-686-8598.

The Single Life Dance, 8 p.m. to midnight at American Legion, Route 121, Haverhill. Admission \$8. 978-373-3504.

Andover High School class of 2001 reunion, 8 p.m. to midnight at Knights of Columbus Hall, 505 Sutton St., North Andover. Tickets \$20; includes food, DJ and cash bar. To attend, e-mail Matt Newcomb at avagonmusic@hotmail.com by Nov. 20.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

Sunday, Nov. 26

Holiday Fair, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the North Andover Senior Center, 120 Rea Main St., next to Town Hall.

"Amahl and the Night Visitors" opera performance, 3 and 7 p.m. at Methuen Memorial Music Hall, Route 28, Methuen. Christmas-themed opera by Gian-Carlo Menotti. Tickets \$15 in advance, 603-635-7978.

"The Underpants" performance, 3 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets

Continued on page 25



David and Permella Sears will perform a program of works written for piano duet ranging from classics by Mozart, Schubert, and Poulenc to comedic pieces by P.D.Q. Bach, Donizetti, and McDowell this Sunday, Nov. 19 at the Lawrence Public Library's Sargent Auditorium.

Four-handed duet

■ PERMELLA AND DAVID SEARS

Continued from page 21

The Seares, who live in Dunstable, are currently in their second full year as ministers of music at West Parish Church. They were music ministers at a church in Chelmsford for 22 years before applying for the position in Andover, as one of more than 50 candidates for the job.

They were interviewed and auditioned the same day they called the parish, and have been ministers ever since.

While Permella plays the organ during church services, David directs the band, although he says she often can tell what his next move will be even before he makes it.

"We just know what the other is going to do," said Permella.

When it comes to their piano duets, the couple relies on that intuitive relationship to work together and execute both complicated and fast-paced pieces, all with the sure-fingered grace of seasoned veterans.

"There is a choreography to four-hand piano music," said David. "We are completely and totally at ease with each other. It's fun to make music together."

The concert on Nov. 19 will be made up of a variety of music, from pieces written by well-known classical composers such as Mozart and Schubert to more humorous numbers, or what David called "stick-out-your-tongue music."

While their teamwork is what makes such demanding piano duets possible, like any married couple, the two sometimes butt heads, even while sitting at the piano bench. David recalled a time where the two were more-or-less battling it out on the keys while practicing one duet. "But a certain amount of tension is good," said David. "Anything artistic, if it's ho-hum, yawn..."

"It's a matter of physics," interjected Permella. "He's bigger, so he always wins."

David said the concert will be family-friendly and appeal to kids while still staying true to the original compositions.

"There's something for everybody," he said.

The couple's daughter, Rebecca, 26, is also musically inclined. She performed on the world premier of her father's violin concerto, although her true love is Latin, her parents said, and not music.

The Seares have music well covered.

"It takes work," said David.

"...And practice," added Permella.

"...Which does not preclude having fun," he concluded.



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This week, students across the United States focus on Africa during Geography Awareness Week.

Africa is a continent second in size only to Asia. It stretches 5,000 miles north to south and is home to over 900 million people.

Africa is divided into more nations than any other continent. The mainland has 47 nations, with six more offshore.

Much of Africa is rocky plateau covered by grasslands. Huge interior lakes feed rivers such as the Nile, the world's longest river. The landscape ranges from temperate Mediterranean to vast deserts, and from mountains to forests.

A great number of birds and animals coexist on the continent.

The fertile croplands in Nigeria and volcanic soils in the Great Rift Valley feed hundreds of millions of people. However, deserts, lowlands, bad soil and unreliable rains limit where humans can live and grow crops enough to survive.

Illiteracy, disease, poverty, and civil unrest plague a large part of continent.

Africa may grow to two billion people by 2050. How will they survive? Experts say governments and people must work together to improve agriculture and health issues.

Greetings from Africa

Some Africans greet each other with a handshake just like we do in America. Some Kenvans shake hands, and then touch their heart with the right hand.

The chief and elderly people receive special respect in Ghana. People bend slightly forward while putting both hands on their legs right above the knees.

Some African children greet adults with a slight bow while they shake hands.

In Zambia some greet by gently squeezing a thumb.

Clapping hands is a greeting in several countries in Africa. Some clap hands three times then say hello. Others use a slow rhythmic clap. Some clap hands and curtsy.

Drummers and dancers perform at the Bruma Lake Flea Market in Johannesburg, South Africa

Newspaper in Education activity

The drum is part of African culture. It is used both for music and for communication. Today, we will make a drum from newspaper.

First, make a hollow tube. Take one or two sections of the newspaper and roll into a tube. Use staples or tape to hold the tube in shape.

Second, make the drum head. Cut a circle or square of crisp white paper slightly bigger than the end of the tube. Tape it securely over one end of the tube. Hold the newspaper drum in one hand and use a pencil or your fingers to beat a rhythm on the drum head.

Try to communicate in your classroom using just drums. Beat out a message. Have another student beat back an answer.

Create different beats that sound a warning, announce a meal, or invite people to a dance.



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■ NOV. 16 THRU DEC. 7
Continued from page 24

\$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

New England Ringers holiday concert, 4 p.m. at the Rogers Center for the Arts at Merrimack College, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. For people older than 65 and younger than 13, tickets are \$8 in advance and \$10 at the door. Call 978-851-3024 or www.newenglandringers.org.

2nd Annual International Film Series presents "Shower," 7 p.m. at the Rogers Center, Merrimack College, North Andover. Screening follows 6:30 p.m. discussion. Free; all welcome. 978-837-5355.

Book discussion, 7:15 p.m. at the Stevens Memorial Library, North Andover. "Reading Lolita in Tehran" by Azar Nafisi. Selection for December is "The Poisonwood Bible" by Barbara Kingsolver. All welcome. Call Pam Green at 978-685-4820

Tambakos Film Series presents
"It Happened One Night," 7 p.m.
at The Rogers Center, Merrimack
College, North Andover. Screen-
ing follows 6:30 p.m. discus-
sion with Army Klayman. Free; all
welcome. 978-837-5355

Mother Connection Shopping Night, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Stevens Estate, North Andover. Features more than 25 vendors.

Free admission. 978-750-0701 or
www.themotherconnection.org.

Holiday Fair, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Tewksbury Congregational Church, 10 East St. Includes crafts, baked goods, Christmas greens, silent auction and kid's fair. Free admission. 978-851-9411.

Senior Day at the 5th annual Christmas at Buttonwoods: A Festival of Trees, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 240 Water St., Haverhill. Tickets \$3 for seniors. 978-374-4626.

Tree-Lighting Ceremony, 5:30
p.m. at Riverwalk Park, Osgood
Street, Methuen. Includes music
and refreshments.

ie Social, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at
Tewksbury Congregational
Church, 10 East St. Features pie
and hot beverages following
town tree-lighting ceremony.
978-851-9411.

Holiday Happenings family concert, 7 p.m. "Not Your Typical Silent Night: A Contemporary Interpretation of the Classic Christmas Celebration." Free; all welcome. Old Town Hall, 20 Main St., Andover. 978-475-0700 or www.freechristian.org.

Annual "No Room at the Inn," 7 to 9 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 260 Gorham St., Lowell. Collection of creches and nativity sets from around the world. Admission \$5. 978-453-8766.

"The Underpants" performance,
7 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players
at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce
written by Steve Martin. Tickets
\$15 adults; \$14 seniors and stu-
dents. Call 781-942-2212.

Christmas Treasure Fair, 9 a.m.
to 2 p.m. at St. Augustine Reli-
gious Education Center, Essex
Street, Andover. Free admission.

Annual Red Bow Fair, 9 a.m. to p.m. at the North Parish Unitarian Universalist Church of North Andover, 190 Academy Road. Free admission. Features New England crafters and artisans, silent auction, holiday decorations, raffles, photos with Santa from 10 a.m. to noon, and lunch.

Cocoa with Santa, 9 a.m. to noon
at Winnekenni Castle, 347
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ties. 978-521-1686 or [www.winn-
nekenni.com](http://www.winn-
nekenni.com).

Kids' Day at the fifth annual Christmas at Buttonwoods. A Festival of Trees, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 240 Water St., Haverhill. Includes hearth cooking and ornament crafts. Cost \$5. Adults \$3 children. 978-374-4629.

Merrimack Valley YMCA
Camping Services Open House,
10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Merrimack Valley YMCA Methuen Branch,
129 Haverhill St. Learn about
Camp Lawrence for boys, Camp
Nokomis for girls, and Day
Camp Otter. Meet camp directors
and watch slide shows. 978-975-
1330.

8th Annual "No Room at the Inn," 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 200 Gorham St., Lowell. Cost: \$10.

nowflake Dance, 5 to 7 p.m. for North Andover first graders and their fathers at Unitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm

CHAMBER MUSIC programs don't typically feature music inspired by popular trends such as the highly charged electronic 'rave' dance music

But this Sunday, Nov. 19, the Essex Chamber Music Players, in residence at Northern Essex Community College, will present a concert featuring the

premier of *Rave Reflections* for Flute, Cello and Piano by its artistic director Michael Finegold of Andover, who is also professor emeritus of music at Northern Essex.

The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Technology Center on the college's Haverhill Campus, 100 Elliott St.

Finch wrote the piece after being inspired by his daughter, Dianna, who listened to rave music when it was popular, and by an electronic music piece titled *Plain Aunts* that was composed by Northern Essex student Andrew Hood as a semester project.



Rafael
Popper-Keizer

Michael Finegold

David
Bib

Rave Reflections is influenced by both rave and my diverse musical tastes, says Finebold. The 7-minute work is set in a temporary classical style, with the rhythmic feeling and build-up of layers of rave. "It's music, done with time and a little drum and pop."

Other works to be performed include the *Soprano Arioso* and *Piano* by Francis Poulenc, the *Cantata Symphonique* by Maurice Fauriol, Bocccherini and the *Allegretto* by Op. 45 by Poulenc, *Cantata and Piano* by Carl Maria von Weber.

The performers of *My*
Uncle that, *Rita*, *Pop*

St. Cost is \$25 per copy. Call Kathleen or Chris Coleman at 978-689-2436.

Holiday Happenings family concert, 6 p.m. "Not Your Typical Silent Night: A Contemporary Interpretation of the Christmas Season." Tickets \$10. Call 708-399-2222.


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
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EVENTS CALENDAR

■ NOV. 16 THRU DEC. 7

Continued from page 25

the "Skid Marks" in the school auditorium, 56 Oak Terrace, Haverhill, for ages 13 through adult. Tickets \$15 per person. Proceeds benefit the Children's Hospital Boston Bone Marrow Transplant Unit. Call Michelle Stanley at 978-373-6777.

"The Underpants" performance, 8 p.m. by Quannopowitt Players at 55 Hopkins St., Reading. Farce written by Steve Martin. Tickets \$15 adults; \$14 seniors and students. Call 781-942-2212.

Sunday, Dec. 3

"Home is Where the Warmth Is" Blanket Drive, 8:45 a.m. to 1 p.m. with Project Home Again at Andover's Temple Emanuel, Haggetts Pond Road. Bring new and gently used blankets and comforters. Browse and buy crafts made by local Jewish women. Visit www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1356.

8th Annual "No Room at the Inn," noon to 4 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church, 260 Gorham St., Lowell. Collection of creches and nativity sets from around the world. Admission \$5. 978-453-5766.

Holiday Concert, 2 p.m. at Winneken Castle, 347 Kenova Ave., Haverhill. Free, all welcome. Includes sing-alongs with family friends musical duo "Attention Shoppers." 978-521-1886 or www.winnekenm.com.

"Bullet-Proof Comedy," 2 and 4 p.m. as part of Family Discovery Series at UMass Lowell, Durgin Concert Hall, 35 Wilder St., South Campus. One-man show with Tom Murphy includes vaudeville, clowning, stand-up comedy, physical comedy and slapstick. Appropriate for children ages 4 and older. Tickets \$12. Call 978-934-4444.

North Andover Historical Society Holiday Open House, 2 to 4 p.m. at 153 Academy Road. Includes refreshments and tour of new exhibit on history of North Parish Church. Free; all welcome. 978-686-4035.

Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra concert, 2:30 p.m. at the Rogers Center, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover. Tickets \$18 adults; \$12 seniors and students; \$5 children. Call 978-685-3505 or visit www.mvpomusic.org.

Adult Deli Dinner and Movie Night, 5 p.m., featuring "Telling Their Stories: New Hampshire Holocaust Survivors Speak Out," produced by Temple member Robert Spiegelman. Admission \$14; reservations required. Temple Emanuel, 7 Haggetts Pond Road, Andover. Visit www.templemanuel.net or call 978-470-1356.

Thursday, Dec. 7

SHED/Kid's Club Annual Holiday Shopping Night, 7 to 9 p.m. at 65 Phillips St., Andover. Admission \$2. Includes vendors, silent auction and refreshments. Call Dina Hurley or Linda Shottes-Bouchard at 978-623-8462.

Ongoing, Etc.

Andover Great Books Group, meets second and fourth Tuesdays, from 7:30 to 9 p.m., to discuss book of the week. Memorial Hall Library, Andover. Call Jean McGreehan at 603-667-9610.

Embroiderers Guild of America, meets third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. through May. Dedicated to teaching and preserving needlework as an art form. Tewksbury Congregational Church, 10 East St., Tewksbury. Call Rosemary Carter at 978-893-0959.

Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous, meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingate at Andover, 80 Andover St., Andover. Visit www.foodaddicts.org or call 781-321-9118.

Lawrence Heritage State Park indoor and outdoor guided tours exploring the history of Lawrence. Free; all welcome. Reservations required. 1 Jackson St., Lawrence. 978-794-1655.

Lowell Opera Company holds rehearsals every Monday, 7:30 p.m. at Christ Church United, 6 Bartlett St., Lowell. New members welcome; auditions not required. 978-441-6926 or www.operalowell.org.

Men's woodcarving group, meets Mondays at 9 a.m. at Andover Senior Center, 36 Bartlett St., Andover. 978-623-8321.

Merrimack Toastmasters Club, meets second and fourth Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. Stevens Memorial Library, 345 Main St., North Andover. Call Bill Cashman at 978-475-0721.

Merrimack Valley Camera Club, meets every Wednesday at 7 p.m. at the Rogers Center, 315 Turnpike St., North Andover. 978-685-3505.

Continued on page 27



The Andover Choral Society board members for 2006-07 are, from left: Jennifer Hickman, Glenn Rogers, Cathy Bruton, Liam O'Doherty, Liz Fortino, Allen Combs, Donna Rossi, Pam Bloomfield, Maura Dufault, June Bower-Barrett, Ron Fortino, Susan Battersby, and Marta Hornidge (not in photo).

Andover Choral Society gets Mass. Cultural Council grant

The Andover Choral Society was recently awarded a three-year grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council in recognition of the choral society's achievements in advocating and preserving choral music.

For 77 years the group has been considered the voice of classical choral music in the Merrimack Valley. Southern New Hamp-

shire and Boston-area communities.

The grant will assist the Andover Choral Society in continuing to bring the highest caliber of music to audiences, organizers said, and provide a forum for members of the community in which they may participate in the exploration and performance of choral arts.

Concerts coming up
The Andover Choral

Society will join the Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra in its annual Holiday Concert on Dec. 3, and will perform Giuseppe Verdi's choral masterpiece *Messa da Requiem* on Jan. 28.

Both concerts will be presented at the Rogers Center for the Arts, Merrimack College.

For ticket information, call 978-688-6353.

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EVENTS CALENDAR

ONGOING, ETC.

Continued from page 26

7:15 p.m. at the Trinitarian Congregational Church, 72 Elm St., North Andover. Call 978-686-0900.

Merrimack Valley Chorus, a

women's a cappella group, rehearses every Thursday at 7:30 p.m. at Wilmington Arts Council Building, 219 Middlesex Ave. (Route 62), Wilmington. Call Kate at 978-692-1843.

Merrimack Valley Chapter of

Creative scans tonight at Memorial Hall Library

Artist of the month at the Memorial Hall Library, Ellen Hoverkamp of West Haven, Conn., will lecture about her work tonight, Thursday, Nov. 16, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Hoverkamp's medium is scanner photography, which she uses to make Digital Blooms.

She starts her artistic process by raiding her neighbors' gardens. After they have toiled and tilled, the Connecticut artist simply plucks away the best blooms of the season.

Hoverkamp, rather than using a scanner to gather images that are later manipulated, painstakingly arranges flowers on her scanner and essentially photographs them using the scanner glass as her lens.

Only minor retouching, similar to that in traditional photography, is done.

The result takes floral arranging into the 21st century, she said. It also bends the boundaries between two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. Like the Victorian botanical drawings

that inspire her, she arranges the blossoms and stems in a way that showcases them on a flat page.

Meanwhile, Hoverkamp is branching out into other perishables. Vegetables, eggs, even a pair of live crabs (that she liberated afterward to the beach) have graced her scanner bed.

Hoverkamp has more than 600 images to date, available as notecards and fine-art prints. Join with other photographers as she discusses this very unusual medium, organizers said.

For more information, call 978-623-8401, Ext. 49.

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), providing support, education, and advocacy, meets the second Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Andover, 6 Locke St., Andover. Co-facilitators are Bob Zimmerman and Rev. Ralph Galen. Call 978-475-4454, or send an e-mail to PFLAGinAndoverMA@aol.com.

Merrimack Valley Townsman Barbershop Chorus, rehearses Mondays at 7 p.m. at All Saints Church, Bellevue Ave., Haverhill. No experience necessary. 978-688-5306.

Methuen Community Band, rehearses every other Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m. All instruments and skill levels welcome. Methuen High School, 1 Ranger Road, Methuen. Call Lori at 978-794-1973.

New England Classical Singers, a regional group of singers devoted to the presentation of demanding and interesting choral music, holds tryouts and rehearsals Wednesday, 7:15 p.m. at South School in Andover. 978-475-1468 or www.newenglandclassical.org.

Newcomers Club of the Andovers holds a coffee the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Panera Bread, Route 114, North Andover. All new residents of Andover and North Andover are welcome. Call Jenn at 978-685-2000 or Peggy at 978-475-3933.

North Parish Quilters, meets the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m., September through June. New members welcome; guest fee \$5. Union Congregational Church, 148 Haverhill St., North Reading. Call Susan Reichert at 978-475-6973.

North Regional Theatre Workshop, rehearses every Tuesday at 7 p.m. at Forest Street Church in Methuen. Call 978-681-0355 or visit www.nrtwa.com.

Skirts and Flirts Square Dance Club dances held every Thursday, 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Shawshen Elementary School, Shawshen and Hopkins streets (Route 12), Wilmington. 978-658-4022.

Stompers Country Line Dance Production holds dances every Wednesday and Sunday, 7 to 11 p.m. at GuestHouse Inn & Suite exit 47 off I-93, Methuen.

Toastmasters International meets second and fourth Mondays of the month 7:00 p.m. at Haverhill Public Library. Improve public speaking skills. www.friendlypressuasione.com

Turkey Town Trotters Square Dance Club meets Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at Knight of Columbus Hall, Sutton Street, North Andover. 978-682-3280 or 978-682-2403.

Worth Checking Out

ART

ADDISON GALLERY, "Coming of Age: American Art 1850-1950s" through Jan. 7; "Later Bartlett, Early Paley" through Dec. 10; "Griselda Addison: Recent Acquisitions" through December; "Wendy Fawcett: American Abstracts" through December. 150 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

ALPERS FINE ART, "Sites and Insights," paintings, 1970s-1990s, and landscapes, 1970s-1990s, through Dec. 3, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday. 100 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

ANDOVER INN, "2006 Christmas Dinner" through Dec. 10, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., 100 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

BROOKS SCHOOL, "Visual Ideas: Paintings, Drawings, Sculpture" through Dec. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Lehman Art Center, 100 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

ENDICOTT COLLEGE, "Cynthia P. Brown: Drawings" through Nov. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Endicott College, 100 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

ERLICH GALLERY, "Cynthia P. Brown: Drawings" through Nov. 30, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Erlich Gallery, 100 Main St., Andover. 978-686-0900.

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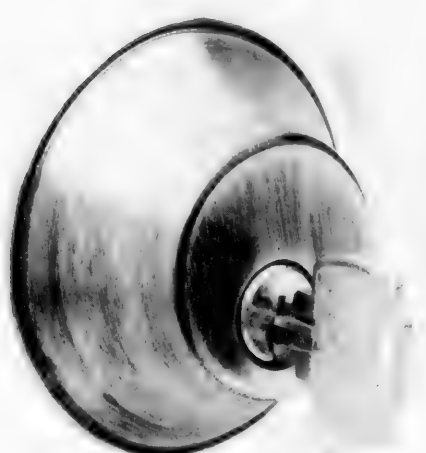
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CHEVY S10 PICKUP 1998-2000, AC, AM/FM stereo, full bed cab, slight body damage, runs great, 1 owner, 98,400 miles, \$3,000. Call (978) 372-5671.

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230 Trucks

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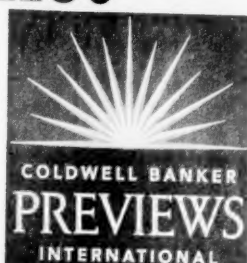
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THE BACK PAGE

Mailbag: Readers share swimming-, skating-spot memories



Bill Dalton

A couple of weeks ago, I mentioned Doggies Pond and asked readers for their memories. Margaret (Dooley) Roberts remembers Doggies Pond very well. In fact, her family once owned it. Doggies Pond was between Lucern Drive and Elm Street.

Margaret said she once, and only once, went into the water there. One winter, when she was young, she was sledding. She began at the high point of Pine Street. On her stomach and steering the sled with her hands, she discovered the snow was slicker than she thought and finished the ride with her face in the not-quite-frozen water of the pond. Doggies was bigger then, she told me, explaining that as house builders put in fill there was encroachment on the pond, shrinking it with each new house.

At one time, her ancestors, the Collins family, had owned more than 25 acres in the area that runs from Pine Street towards what's now Merrimack College. Before the land was Merrimack College it was a horse-breeding farm that became a dairy farm in the 1920s. Before 1902, there was only a dirt trail where Pine Street now exists. Margaret's father and others petitioned the town to put in a street and, thus, Pine Street was built in 1902. It was so named because of the large and beautiful pine trees in the area. Margaret thinks the pond formed, or at least was made larger, when Pine Street was constructed, blocking a small brook.

Margaret had several friends in the neighborhood, including Nikki and Vicki Thiras and Eleanor and Flora Raidy. (The Thiras family lived at 4 Upland Road and the Raidy family at 64 Summer St.) The girls didn't swim in Doggies in the hot months; that honor was for boys only. Every boy had a dog, Margaret says, and that's why it's called Doggies Pond. The dogs would jump in following their masters; on hot days the pond would be filled with boys and dogs. In my time (around the 1950s) we only used the pond to ice skate. I don't know when kids stopped swimming there, but my group didn't.

Margaret graduated from Pynchard in 1937 and Simmons College in 1941. Coincidentally (for me), her mother Helen Collins (later Dooley) dated my uncle, Harry Dalton, in high school and was a life-long friend of my aunt, Frances Dalton, both sharing a passion for painting. Margaret's

family gave more than 15 acres to AVIS (Andover Village Improvement Society), now known as the Collins Reservation, which includes what, if anything, is left of Doggies.

Dick Eldred who lives at 50 Lupine Road said this about Doggies: "My family lived on Washington Avenue, and we spent many hours skating on Doggies Pond. [We could walk] straight through the woods behind our house and we would come out on Pine Street, cross the street and there we were. There were very large pine trees on the slope down to the pond. From the first pond, which was about 50 feet across, there was a straight channel ... running out for about 50 to 60 feet. Then there were other channels running right and left. At the end of the one going right, about 60 to 75 feet, there was another round pond 15 to 20 feet in diameter. The one to the left ran 50 to 60 feet and stopped at a stone wall. Some distance beyond that was the 'Big Pond.' This pond was about 75 feet across and very deep. When the ice would get rough, we would chop a hole at the side and use a bucket to flood the ice in late afternoon. We also shoveled snow off after every storm."

Dick mentioned several of his neighborhood friends and two brothers: "In our group that skated on Doggies was George Lannon, Philip Dole, Justin Collins, Bill Eldred, Hugh Eldred, all deceased. Still, in addition to myself, are Jim Eldred and Tom Darby. We started skating there in the winter of 1941-42."

The Boat House and the Shawsheen River

An earlier column about the Trott family, who lived at 85 Central St., mentioned a small boathouse on the Shawsheen River off Lupine Road near the Horn Bridge. Referring to a map drawn by his brother several years ago that showed the "Canoe House," Jim Trott said, "Abbot Academy... maintained a boathouse on the Shawsheen River. It disappeared sometime in the '30s ... Inside it were racks with 8 to 12 canoes resting upside-down. These canoes were available to the general public for a fee."

I talked with Dick Eldred (mentioned above). He lives with his wife Shirley at 50 Lupine Road; both were in the Pynchard class of '50. Dick said there is a marker at the location of the "Canoe Club." Jim Batchelder, who does a lot of work with the Andover Historical Society, said he isn't sure Abbot Academy ever owned the club. Dick Eldred and a neighbor have taken on the project of writing a history of the "Canoe House." He believes there are no outstanding pictures of the structure. If anyone has any information about the

canoe club please send me an e-mail.

I've written about the Clay Pit and the Ten-Footer, both swimming holes in the Shawsheen River. Boys skinny-dipped in both places. Jim Batchelder's mother often canoed up the river to Pumps and back with other girls. She told Jim that the Levis family on Red Spring Road allowed folks to keep boats in their yard. The Ten-Footer was very near the Levis property and Clay Pit was beyond the Ten-Footer. Jim's mom said they would yell out to the boys "girls coming" before they reached the sites, giving the boys time to run for cover. (According to the 1936 Street Directory, James and Margaret Levis lived at 80 Red Spring Road.)

The History of the Brickyard

The Brickyard (mentioned in a previous column), a swimming hole in the Shawsheen River behind what is now Washington Park, is remembered by Fred McCollum, an outstanding athlete at Pynchard (class of '45) who lives in California. He mentioned what several others said about the place: that the boys felt no need to be encumbered by bathing suits.

There was a big rope to swing out over the shallow water before letting go and splashing down into deeper water. Other readers told me that the thrill of the rope was the danger of releasing too soon and crashing down on the rocks in the shallow water. (We boys were/are odd: risk adds to pleasure, even in the most innocuous play.) I'd like to know when kids started using the swimming hole, but I'm guessing it was so long ago we'll never figure it out.

Joan Patrakis is a Townie (Pynchard, '55), and writes the Andover Historical Society Newsletter. She did research on the history of the Brickyard and writes, "One source mentions that clay beds in Frye Village were laid out for the general use of

the town in 1722. Samuel Abbot's 90-acre farm in Shawsheen [then Frye Village], which bordered the brickyard, became the town farm and alms house (poorhouse) in 1807. Since Commonwealth law permitted towns to provide employment to all able-bodied persons who received alms, male recipients were employed on the farm or in the brickyard digging clay, making bricks. In 1825, the town auditor reported the farm and brickyard produced enough income to support the poor, pay the keepers and cover the expense of making bricks. Abiel Abbot (author of *History of Andover from Settlement to 1829*) stated, "...about 300,000 bricks are annually made in the yard and disposed of for the benefit of the town." Joan added, "A new alms house was built about 1840 on what is now Argyle Street. The three-storied structure was made of (what else?) bricks from the brickyard! Many town buildings (including those at Phillips and Abbot academies) were made of Andover brick. If any of your readers own an old home they might want to take a good look at its stone foundation where they'll probably see a few of the old Andover bricks."

Jim Batchelder sent some further information derived from Abiel Abbot's book. It indicated that the town had opened several beds of clay, the most extensive being opened where the Brickyard swimming hole was located more than a century later. Ephraim Mayo of Kennebec, Maine sold the town his patent for a "single lever brick press" for a price of \$50. This was the state-of-the-art for the day and the town got 12 years of exclusive use.

Jim added that, in addition to the alms house, the large brick house near the Horn Bridge on Burnham Road is made from brickyard bricks. I wonder when the brickyard closed. It's interesting that the name was applied to the swimming hole through the mid-20th Century.

Please send e-mails to me at billdalton@billdaltononline.com.

Correction

I was likely incorrect when I stated several columns ago that the first South Andover Parish Meeting House, opened in 1710, was built on what is now the Playstead. I was using Claude Fuess's history book as a source. The proper location of this structure might have been just to the north of where South Church now stands.

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